

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION & REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

**FISCAL YEAR 2001
APPLICATION FOR NEW GRANTS UNDER THE
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)**

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS FOR CHILDREN
WITH DISABILITIES (CFDA 84.324)**

Postsecondary Education Programs for Individuals with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324A)

Student Initiated Research Projects (CFDA 84.324B)

Field Initiated Research Projects (CFDA 84.324C)

Youth Leadership Development Project (CFDA 84.324F)

**Model Demonstration Projects for Children with Disabilities
(CFDA 84.324M)**

Initial Career Awards (CFDA 84.324N)

Outreach Projects for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324R)

**TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
(CFDA 84.327)**

Steppingstones of Technology Innovation for Students with Disabilities (CFDA 84.327A)

**Accessible Media for Students with Visual Impairments and Print Disabilities
(CFDA 84.327K)**

**TRAINING AND INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (CFDA
84.328)**

Community Parent Resource Centers (CFDA 84.328C)

STUDIES AND EVALUATION PROGRAM (CFDA 84.329)

National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (CFDA 84.329E)



DATED MATERIAL - OPEN

IMMEDIATELY

CLOSING DATE: SEE ENCLOSED LIST OF CLOSING DATES

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Notice to All Applicants: The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities

Dear Applicant:

This application packet contains information and the required forms for you to use in submitting a new application for funding under four programs authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This packet covers eleven competitions under the Research and Innovation to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324) program; Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities (CFDA 84.327) program; Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.328) program; and Studies and Evaluation (CFDA 84.329) program. A chart listing pertinent information, including the closing date for each competition, can be found on page B1 of this package.

An application for an award must: (1) be mailed or hand-delivered by the closing date; and, (2) have an original signature on at least one copy of the assurances and certifications (Part IV of the application form). It is also important to include the appropriate Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numeric and alpha in Item #3 on ED Form 424 (e.g., CFDA No. 84.324R, or 84.329E).

Please note the following:

- **MAXIMUM AWARD AMOUNT.** In addition to providing detailed budget information for the total grant period requested, all the competitions included in this package have maximum award amounts. Please refer to the specific information for each priority/competition to which you are submitting an application (i.e., Section C of this package). Please be advised that for the priorities in this package, the maximum award amounts cover all project costs including indirect costs.
- **STRICT PAGE LIMITS.** All of the competitions included in this package limit the Part III Application Narrative to a specified number of double-spaced pages. This page limitation applies to all material presented in the application narrative -- including, for example, any charts, tables, figures, and graphs. (Please refer to the specific requirements on page limits for each priority/competition to which you are submitting an application - i.e., Section C of this package). The Department will reject, and will NOT consider an application that does not adhere to the page limit requirements for each competition.
- **FORMAT FOR APPLICATIONS.** Please note that additional information regarding formatting applications has been included on Pages D-2 and 3 of the "General Information on Completing An Application" section of this package.
- **NEW DISCRETIONARY GRANT APPLICATION FORM 424.** The Department has a new application form for grant programs. The new form, ED 424, Application for Federal Education Assistance (OMB No. 1875-0106), replaces the SF-424, Application for

Federal Assistance (OMB No. 0348-0043), previously used to apply for funds under Department discretionary and other grant programs. In addition to the name change, the form has three new items. The first item requests applicants to provide their D-U-N-S number, the second item asks applicants to identify whether they are a "novice" applicant, and the third addition requires applicants to indicate whether they plan to conduct research involving human subjects at any time during the proposed project period. In addition, the form has a "Protection of Human Subjects in Research" Attachment. This attachment is an integral part of the new ED 424 form. It includes information that applicants need to complete the protection of human subjects item and, as appropriate, to provide additional information to the Department regarding human subjects research projects. Additional information on completing the protection of human subjects item is also available and can be accessed on the INTERNET at:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/grntinfo.htm>
<http://ocfo.ed.gov/humansub.htm>

- **NEW GUIDANCE ON SECTION 427 OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION PROVISIONS ACT (GEPA).** The Department has new guidance for grant applicants regarding the equitable access and equitable participation provision in section 427 of GEPA. The new enclosure, NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS (OMB No. 1801-0004 (Exp. 8/31/2001), replaces the old version, NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS (OMB No. 18010004 (Exp. 8/31/98), previously included in discretionary grant application packages. Section 427 of GEPA requires all new applicants for Departmental programs to describe in their applications the steps they propose to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in the project or activity to be conducted with program funds. The descriptions should include the steps that the applicant intends to take to help students, teachers and other beneficiaries overcome barriers to equitable participation in program activities that the applicant would conduct.
- **CHANGES TO CFDA NOS. 84.324M AND 84.324R.** Several changes have been made in the Model Demonstration Projects for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324M) and the Outreach Projects for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324R) competitions. We have revised the points under three of the selection criteria, increased the maximum award amount, and increased the page limit. These changes were made in response to a review we conducted of the quality of evaluations being accomplished under grants funded in those two competitions over the last few years. This evaluation was the first of a series of measures we are conducting for our GPRA (Government Performance Results Act) plan. We are currently in the process of implementing an interactive GPRA web site where this and additional information will be posted. Please monitor our OSEP web site at www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP for an announcement on availability. If you need a copy of this information immediately, please call 202-205-9864.
- **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS:** In the Federal Register announcement, under Maximum Award, it states that "We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the

project as personnel on project activities.” As soon as the procedures for implementing this are finalized, they will be posted on OSERS’ homepage at: www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS

- **TREATING A PRIORITY AS TWO SEPARATE COMPETITIONS.** In the past, there have been problems in finding peer reviewers without conflicts of interest where applications are made by many entities throughout the country. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA '97 have also placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Secretary has determined that, for some discretionary priorities, applications may be ranked and selected for funding in two or more groups, which will ensure the availability of a much larger group of reviewers without conflicts of interest. This procedure will increase the quality, independence and fairness of the review process and will permit panel members to review applications under discretionary priorities to which they have also submitted applications. This approach will only be used on selected competitions.

A program officer is available to provide information to you regarding these competitions. Please refer to the name of the program contact at the end of each priority description. For information about other U.S. Department of Education grant and contract opportunities, we encourage you to use the Department's grant information web page which can be accessed on the INTERNET at: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/grntinfo.htm>

We appreciate your efforts to improve the provision of services for individuals with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Louis C. Danielson, Ph.D.
Director
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education
Programs

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT
APPLICATION NOTICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

CFDA No. and Name	Applications Available	Application Deadline Date	Deadline for Intergovernmental Review	Maximum Award (per year)*	Project Period	Page Limit**	Estimated Number of Awards
84.324A Postsecondary Education Programs for Individuals who are Deaf	09/06/00	12/15/00	02/14/01	\$1,000,000	Up to 60 mos.	50	4
84.324B Student Initiated Research Projects	09/06/00	02/09/01	04/11/01	\$20,000	Up to 12 mos.	25	12
84.324C Field Initiated Research Projects	09/06/00	01/05/01	03/06/01	\$180,000	***Up to 60 mos.	50	14
84.324F Youth Leadership Development Project	09/06/00	10/13/00	12/12/00	\$300,000	Up to 60 mos.	50	1
84.324M Model Demonstration Projects for Children with Disabilities	09/06/00	12/15/00	02/12/01	\$175,000	Up to 48 mos.	50	14
84.324N Initial Career Awards	09/06/00	10/27/00	12/26/00	\$75,000	Up to 36 mos.	30	4
84.324R Outreach Projects for Children with Disabilities	09/06/00	12/01/00	01/31/01	\$175,000	Up to 36 mos.	50	14
84.327A Steppingstones of Technology Innovation for Students with Disabilities	09/06/00	12/08/00	02/05/01				11
Phase 1 and 2				\$200,000	Up to 24 mos.	50	
Phase 3				\$300,000	Up to 36 mos.	50	
84.327K Accessible Media for Students with Visual Impairments and Print Disabilities	09/06/00	10/13/00	12/12/00	\$6,000,000	Up to 36 mos.	70	1
84.328C Community Parent Resource Centers	09/06/00	11/03/00	01/02/01	\$100,000	Up to 36 mos.	30	15
84.329E National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study	09/06/00	10/13/00	12/12/00		Up to 60 mos.	70	1
FY 2001				\$1,100,000			
FY 2002				\$1,200,000			
FY 2003				\$1,300,000			
FY 2004				\$400,000			
FY 2005				\$400,000			

* Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities. ** Applicants must limit the Application Narrative, Part III of the Application, to the page limits noted above. Please refer to the "Page Limit" requirements and the page limit standards described in the "General Requirements" section included under each priority description. We will reject and will not consider an application that does not adhere to this requirement. ***The majority of projects will be funded for up to 36 months. Only in exceptional circumstances will projects be funded for more than 36 months, up to a maximum of 60 months.

PRIORITY DESCRIPTION
AND
SELECTION CRITERIA
FOR THE
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS FOR
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO
ARE DEAF
(CFDA 84.324A)

DEADLINE: 12/15/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

This priority provides support for four regional centers on postsecondary education for individuals who are deaf, including individuals with a wide range of hearing loss. Each center would provide technical assistance to a range of postsecondary institutions, including academic, vocational, technical, continuing, and adult education programs, to expand the array of educational opportunities within the region that are available to students who are deaf. The centers must provide technical assistance to institutions currently not serving students who are deaf to assist them to develop services and to institutions currently serving students who are deaf to assist them in improving existing programs. In carrying out the objectives of this priority, projects must distribute technical assistance services and resources equitably, taking into account population and geographic size, within each State in its targeted geographic region.

Each regional center must:

- (a) Conduct an assessment to determine current technical assistance needs and priorities of postsecondary institutions related to recruiting; enrolling; retaining; instructing; addressing the varying communication needs and methods used by individuals who are deaf, including those from language minorities; and otherwise effectively serving students who are deaf;
- (b) Provide consultation, in-service training, and planning and development assistance to appropriate staff at postsecondary education institutions to (1) enhance access to programs and accommodation of individuals who are deaf and (2) as needed, improve their basic skills before matriculating in a postsecondary education environment, and individuals who need job specific skill development training;
- (c) Provide technical assistance on the responsibilities of postsecondary education institutions under Federal statutes, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- (d) Cooperate with participating secondary and postsecondary educational institutions within the region in developing outreach strategies and disseminating information to individuals who are deaf to enhance their awareness of available postsecondary opportunities, both within and outside the region;

(e) Disseminate information about resources (e.g. financial, support services) available to students who are deaf and to postsecondary institutions to help them accommodate these students;

(f) Through development or acquisition, make training materials available and disseminate information on proven models, components of models, and other exemplary practices, including innovative technology, to assist administrators, faculty and staff in implementing effective and cost-effective service-delivery systems that foster integration of students who are deaf with other students;

(g) Encourage the use of consortia of postsecondary education institutions and other cooperative arrangements to provide services and assistance to students who are deaf, including coordination of postsecondary education options with existing public and private community services that may address the educational, remedial, support service, transitional, independent living, and employment needs of individuals who are deaf;

(h) Coordinate technical assistance and dissemination activities with relevant information clearinghouses and organizations such as the National Clearinghouse on Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Disabilities (HEATH), National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities, Secondary Education and Transition Technical Assistance Center, and Association of Higher Education and Disability;

(i) Evaluate the overall impact, effectiveness, and results of the postsecondary institutions within the region in accommodating students who are deaf;

(j) Work with the other three grantees under this program to operate a postsecondary education programs network to coordinate and collaborate on the development and establishment of needs-assessment activities, material development, technical assistance, outreach, information dissemination, and evaluation of the regional centers' activities for the purpose of avoiding overlap and duplication of efforts. Grantees must ensure that individuals who are deaf have information on postsecondary programs throughout the country, including information on the services they provide, and that information on proven models, components of models, and other exemplary practices, including innovative technology, is equally available in each of the four regions. This coordination must include carrying out collaborative activities and cross-regional initiatives, where appropriate; and

(k) Develop structured methods and processes for evaluating the impact and appropriateness of the assistance provided by the regional centers to staff at postsecondary education institutions related to enhancing access to programs and accommodating individuals who are deaf. In particular, consultation, in-service training, and planning and development should be evaluated.

Under this priority, we will fund four cooperative agreements, each with a project period of up to 60 months subject to the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a) for continuation awards.

In deciding whether to continue this project for the fourth and fifth years, we will consider the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a), and in addition —

(a) The recommendation of a review team consisting of three experts whom we select. The review team will conduct its review during the last half of the project's second year, including a two-day site visit to the grantee. The results of the review team's review may be included in that year's evaluation required under 34 CFR 75.590. Costs associated with the services to be performed by the review team must also be included in the project's budget for year two. These costs are estimated to be approximately \$6,000;

(b) The timeliness and effectiveness with which all requirements of the negotiated cooperative agreement have been or are being met by the project; and

(c) The degree to which the projects are making a positive contribution to addressing the technical assistance needs of postsecondary institutions related to assisting them to increase and improve postsecondary opportunities for students who are deaf.

To ensure that all States benefit from these projects, we will support four projects that will be required to serve each State within one of the following geographic regions:

Northeast Region – Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virgin Islands.

Southern Region – Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Midwest Region – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Western Region – Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 60 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$1,000,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).

- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if --

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

***Ramon Rodriguez , Competition Manager
Office of Special Institutions
Office of the Assistant Secretary
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FAX: (202) 205-9252
Ramon_Rodriguez@ed.gov
TDD: (202) 205-9156***

STUDENT INITIATED RESEARCH PROJECTS **(CFDA 84.324B)**

DEADLINE: 02/09/01

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

This priority provides support for short-term (up to 12 months) postsecondary student-initiated research projects focusing on special education and related services for children with disabilities and early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities, consistent with the purposes of the program, as described in Section 672 of the Act.

Projects must –

- (a) Develop research skills in postsecondary students; and
- (b) Include a principal investigator who serves as a mentor to the student researcher while the project is carried out by the student.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 12 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$20,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 25 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the “General Requirements” section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors’ meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Student-Initiated Research Projects priority was begun in 1974. The projects funded under this priority reflect a broad range of target populations, academic areas, educational philosophies, and types of research design. In recent years, awards have been for amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and have included the cost of such items as data collection, data analysis, travel, materials, necessary equipment, communications, and report preparation. Awards have not included salary or stipend support for

the student or fees to paid members of the student's committee or to faculty members at the university where the student was in attendance.

Since a student's tenure at the university and ability to complete a research project depend on many factors in addition to research competence, it is recommended that the applicant institution list a member of the faculty or other employee as principal investigator and list the student as student investigator for the project.

It is helpful to note whether the proposed research is expected to serve as the student's thesis or dissertation. Acceptance of the study report by the student's committee, however, does not necessarily fulfill the requirements of this office. By the same token, the Office of Special Education Program's acceptance of the final report of the project should not necessarily influence the deliberations of the student's committee.

For further information about this priority contact:

***Dr. Grace Zamora Duran, Competition Manager
Research to Practice Division
Office of Special Education Programs
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FAX: (202) 205-8971
Internet: Grace_Duran@ed.gov
TDD: 1-800-877-8339***

FIELD INITIATED RESEARCH PROJECTS **(CFDA 84.324C)**

DEADLINE: 01/05/01

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

This priority provides support for a wide range of field-initiated research projects that support innovation, development, exchange, and use of advancements in knowledge and practice as described in Section 672 of the Act including the improvement of early intervention, instruction, and learning for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.

Projects must --

(a) Prepare their procedures, findings, and conclusions in a manner that informs other interested researchers and is useful for advancing professional practice or improving programs and services to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities and their families; and

(b) Disseminate project procedures, findings, and conclusions to appropriate research institutes and technical assistance providers.

Invitational Priorities:

Within absolute priority 3 for FY 2001, we are particularly interested in applications that meet one or more of the following invitational priorities.

However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give to an application that meets one or more of these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

(a) Projects to address the specific problems of over-identification and under-identification of children with disabilities. (See section 672(a)(3) of the Act).

(b) Projects to develop and implement effective strategies for addressing inappropriate behavior of students with disabilities in schools, including strategies to prevent children with emotional and behavioral problems from developing emotional disturbances that require the provision of special education and related services. (See section 672(a)(4) of the Act).

(c) Projects studying and promoting improved alignment and compatibility of regular and special education reforms concerned with curriculum and instruction, evaluation and accountability, and administrative procedures. (See section 672(b)(2)(D) of the Act).

(d) Projects that advance knowledge about the coordination of education with health and social services. (See section 672(b)(2)(G) of the Act).

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, within this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: The majority of projects will be funded for up to 36 months. Only in exceptional circumstances -- such as research questions that require repeated measurement within a longitudinal design -- will projects be funded for more than 36 months, up to a maximum of 60 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$180,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROJECT **(CFDA 84.324F)**

DEADLINE: 10/13/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

BACKGROUND:

Recent legislation has increased the options and choices for postsecondary education, employment, and independent living. These include the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), including Title IV, which amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA); and the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999.

A number of studies and reports have helped to document the difficulties youth with disabilities have transitioning from school to adult life. They report low levels of participation in postsecondary education and training programs, unemployment, underemployment, and dependence on public assistance programs. In addition, they indicate a number of issues that must be addressed in order for youth with disabilities to be more successful in achieving their goals for adult life. These include the need to (1) increase family and student involvement in transition planning; (2) increase access to work-based learning and contextual teaching; (3) improve participation in postsecondary education; (4) improve collaboration among multiple service systems; and (5) ensure better access to and utilization of health insurance and health care.

This priority represents a collaborative effort between the Department of Education - Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; the Social Security Administration; the Department of Labor; the National Council on Disability; the Department of Health and Human Services - Maternal and Child Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Administration on Developmental Disabilities; and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. This group of Federal partners conducted annual National Leadership Conferences for Youth with Disabilities in fiscal years 1998, 1999, and 2000. These earlier conferences will help to inform the activities outlined in the priority including the requirement described in paragraph (g)(5).

PRIORITY:

The purpose of this priority is to support a project to advance and improve the knowledge base and the practice of youth and the professionals, parents, educators, employers, and other partners providing education, transition and related services to youth with disabilities consistent with the purposes of IDEA, Part D, Section 672. This will be accomplished by obtaining

information on the perspectives of youth with disabilities regarding barriers to effective policy and practice for improving results for youth with disabilities and developing strategic actions for reducing those barriers.

The project funded under this priority must hold 5 annual National Leadership Conferences of Youth with Disabilities (NLCs) involving youth with disabilities ages

16 through 24. The project must:

- (a) For each conference, include discussion topics related to —
 - (1) Equality of opportunity, full participation, and self-sufficiency;
 - (2) Disability history and culture, civil rights laws, and the ADA;
 - (3) Skills for effective leadership at State and local levels and mentoring;
 - (4) Self advocacy and self determination;
 - (5) Independent living; and
 - (6) Systems, such as education, vocational rehabilitation, workforce development, health, social security, housing, and transportation, including collaboration among these systems.
- (b) Based on these discussions —
 - (1) Develop an update on the impact of barriers to successful adult life;
 - (2) Identify what works, such as promising practices; and
 - (3) Highlight actions that should be implemented at the national, State, and local levels as seen by youth with disabilities.
- (c) Enhance the self-determination efforts of youth with disabilities.
- (d) Be informed by transition research and what is currently known about promising practices.
- (e) Involve youth with disabilities in --
 - (1) Ongoing follow-up activities designed to build on and enhance the leadership skills gained in the NLCs; and

(2) Planning and directing the Conferences.

(f) Document and disseminate information annually on the results of these Conferences. The project will be responsible for coordinating its dissemination efforts with other OSERS-funded technical assistance projects including the Secondary Education and Transition Technical Assistance Center.

(g) In collaboration with Federal partners, develop a process for selecting which youth with disabilities will be invited to participate in each annual Conference that --

(1) Includes at least one representative from each U.S. territory and State;

(2) Reflects the diverse cultural groups of our nation with a balance between males and females;

(3) Includes the participation of youth with a broad array of disabilities;

(4) Includes the participation of Federal partners in the selection process; and

(5) Provides for input from at least two NLC-experienced youth -- youth that have served as past NLC representatives -- who will participate actively and equally with others involved in the selection process. The youth must be provided training on the criteria used for reaching consensus on the selection of finalists.

(h) Design and carry out a strategic management plan, including project evaluation. This plan must be designed to provide information to guide necessary ongoing refinements to the structure and activities of the project that will improve its effectiveness. The plan must also include procedures for follow-up activities designed to measure the impact of NLC participation on experiences and outcomes for youth.

Under this priority, we will fund one award for a cooperative agreement with a project period of up to 60 months subject to the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a) for continuation awards.

In deciding whether to continue this project for the fourth and fifth years, we will consider the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a), and in addition --

(a) The recommendation of a review team consisting of three experts whom we select. The review team will conduct its review during the last half of the project's second year, including a two-day site visit to the grantee. The results of the review team's review may be included in that year's evaluation required under 34 CFR 75.590. Costs associated with the services to be performed by the review team must also be included in the project's budget for year two. These costs are estimated to be approximately \$6,000;

(b) The timeliness and effectiveness with which all requirements of the negotiated cooperative agreement have been or are being met by the project; and

(c) The degree to which the project's design and methodology demonstrates the potential for advancing significant new knowledge.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 60 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$300,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

Note: Funding is contingent upon the availability of funds, including Federal interagency support for this project from the collaborating agencies mentioned in the background statement.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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INITIAL CAREER AWARDS **(CFDA 84.324N)**

DEADLINE: 10/27/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

BACKGROUND:

There is a need to enable individuals in the initial phases of their careers to initiate and develop promising lines of research that would improve early intervention services for infants and toddlers, and special education and related services for children with disabilities. Support for research activities among individuals in the initial phases of their careers is intended to develop the capacity of the early intervention and special education research community. This priority would address the additional need to provide support for a broad range of field-initiated research projects -- focusing on the special education and related services for children with disabilities and early intervention for infants and toddlers -- consistent with the purpose of the program as described in section 672 of the Act.

PRIORITY: We will establish an absolute priority for the purpose of awarding grants to eligible applicants for the support of individuals in the initial phases of their careers to initiate and develop promising lines of research consistent with the purposes of the program. For purposes of this priority, the initial phase of an individual's career is considered to be the first three years after completing a doctoral program and graduating (i.e., for fiscal year 2001 awards, projects may support individuals who completed a doctoral program and graduated no earlier than the 1997-1998 academic year).

At least 50 percent of the initial career researcher's time must be devoted to the project.

Projects must --

(a) Pursue a line of research that is developed either from theory or a conceptual framework. The line of research must establish directions for designing future studies extending beyond the support of this award. The project is not intended to represent all inquiry related to the particular theory or conceptual framework; rather, it is expected to initiate a new line or advance an existing one;

(b) Include, in design and conduct, sustained involvement with one or more nationally recognized experts having substantive or methodological knowledge and expertise relevant to the proposed research. The experts do not have to be at the same institution or agency at which the project is located, but the interaction with the project must be sufficient to develop the capacity of the initial career researcher to effectively pursue the research into mid-career activities;

(c) Prepare procedures, findings, and conclusions in a manner that informs other interested researchers and is useful for advancing professional practice or improving programs and services to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities and their families; and

(d) Disseminate project procedures, findings, and conclusions to appropriate research institutes and technical assistance providers.

Invitational Priority:

Within this priority for FY 2001, we are particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priority. However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give to an application that meets the priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Projects that include in the design and conduct of the research project, a practicing teacher or clinician, in addition to the required involvement of nationally recognized experts.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 36 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$75,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 30 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the “General Requirements” section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors’ meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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Research to Practice Division

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAF (CFDA 84.324A); STUDENT-INITIATED RESEARCH PROJECTS (CFDA 84.324B); FIELD-INITIATED RESEARCH PROJECTS (CFDA 84.324C); YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (CFDA 84.324F) AND INITIAL CAREER AWARDS (CFDA 84.324N) COMPETITIONS

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Postsecondary Education Programs for Individuals who are Deaf (CFDA 84.324A); Student-Initiated Research Projects (CFDA 84.324B); Field-Initiated Research Projects (CFDA 84.324C); Youth Leadership Development Project (CFDA 84.324F) and Initial Career Awards (CFDA 84.324N) competitions are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Significance (20 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The significance of the problem or issue to be addressed by the proposed project;
 - (ii) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increase knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;
 - (iii) The potential contribution of the proposed project to the development and advancement of theory, knowledge, and practices in the field of study; and
 - (iv) The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies.

(b) Quality of the project design (35 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework;
 - (ii) The extent to which the proposed research design includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for research activities, and the use of appropriate theoretical and methodological tools, including those of a variety of disciplines, if appropriate;
 - (iii) The extent to which the proposed project encourages parental involvement; and
 - (iv) The extent to which the proposed project encourages consumer involvement.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.
- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and
 - (ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(d) Quality of the management plan (15 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and

(iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

(e) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

MODEL DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

(CFDA 84.324M)

DEADLINE: 12/15/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

This priority supports model demonstration projects that develop, implement, evaluate, and disseminate new or improved approaches for providing early intervention, special education, and related services to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities, and students with disabilities who are pursuing post-school employment, postsecondary education, or independent living goals. Projects supported under this priority are expected to be major contributors of models or components of models for service providers and for outreach projects funded under IDEA.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS:

A model demonstration project must --

- (a) Develop and implement the model with specific components or strategies that are based on theory, research, or evaluation data;
- (b) Determine the effectiveness of the model and its components or strategies by using multiple measures of results; and
- (c) Produce detailed procedures and materials that would enable others to replicate the model.

Federal financial participation for a project funded under this priority will not exceed 90 percent of the total annual costs of development, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of the project (see Section 661(f)(2)(A) of IDEA).

In addition to the annual two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. mentioned in the "General Requirements" section of this notice, projects must budget for another annual meeting in Washington, D.C. to collaborate with the Federal project officer and the other projects funded under this priority, to share information and discuss model development, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination issues.

Competitive Preferences:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 48 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$175,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMIT: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE MODEL DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (CFDA 84.324M) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Model Demonstration Projects for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324M) competition are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Significance (15 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The national significance of the proposed project;
 - (ii) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;
 - (iii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to yield findings that may be utilized by other appropriate agencies and organizations;
 - (iv) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies;
 - (v) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings;
 - (vi) The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies;

(vii) The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings; and

(viii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project.

(b) Quality of the project design (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable;

(ii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs;

(iii) The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework;

(iv) The extent to which the design of the proposed project includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for project implementation, and the use of appropriate methodological tools to ensure successful achievement of project objectives;

(v) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance;

(vi) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;

(vii) The extent to which the proposed project will be coordinated with similar or related efforts, and with other appropriate community, State, and Federal resources;

(viii) The extent to which the proposed project encourages parental involvement;

(ix) The extent to which the proposed project encourages consumer involvement; and

(x) The extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(d) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

(e) Quality of the management plan (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project;

(iii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project; and

(v) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.

(f) Quality of the project evaluation (25 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project;

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are appropriate to the context within which the project operates;

(iii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies;

(iv) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible; and

(v) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

OUTREACH PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES **(CFDA 84.324R)**

DEADLINE: 12/01/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

This priority supports projects that will assist educational and other agencies in replicating proven models, components of models, and other exemplary practices that improve services for infants, toddlers, children with disabilities, and students with disabilities who are pursuing post-school employment, postsecondary education or independent living goals.

For the purposes of this priority, a "proven model" is a comprehensive description of a theory or system that, when applied, has been shown to be effective. "Exemplary practices" are effective strategies and methods used to deliver educational, related, or early intervention services. The models, components of models, or exemplary practices selected for outreach may include those developed for pre-service and in-service personnel preparation, and do not need to have been developed through projects funded under IDEA, or by the applicant.

Important elements of an outreach project include but are not limited to:

- (a) Providing supporting data or other documentation in the application regarding the effectiveness of the model, components of a model, or exemplary practices selected for outreach;
- (b) Selecting implementation sites in multiple regions within one State or multiple States and describing the criteria for their selection;
- (c) Describing the expected costs, needed personnel, staff training, equipment, and sequence of implementation activities associated with the replication efforts, including a description of any modifications to the model or practice made by the sites;
- (d) Including public awareness, product development and dissemination, training, and technical assistance activities as part of the implementation of the project; and
- (e) Coordinating dissemination and replication activities conducted as part of outreach with dissemination projects, technical assistance providers, consumer and advocacy organizations, State and local educational agencies, and the lead agencies for Part C of IDEA, as appropriate.

Projects must prepare products from the project in formats that are useful for specific audiences, including parents, administrators, teachers, early intervention personnel, related services personnel, and individuals with disabilities. (See section 661(f)(2)(B) of IDEA).

Federal financial participation for a project funded under this priority will not exceed 90 percent of the total annual costs of development, operation, and evaluation of the project (see section 661(f)(2)(A) of IDEA).

In addition to the annual two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. mentioned in the "General Requirements" section of this notice, projects must budget annually for another annual meeting in Washington, D.C. to collaborate with the Federal project officer and the other projects funded under this priority, to share information and discuss project implementation issues.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 36 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$175,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) The projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) The projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed under each applicable priority, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double-space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE OUTREACH PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (CFDA 84.324R) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Outreach Projects for Children with Disabilities (CFDA 84.324R) are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Significance (15 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;
 - (ii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population;
 - (iii) The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies;
 - (iv) The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings; and
 - (v) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project.

(b) Quality of project services (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are appropriate to the needs of the intended recipients or beneficiaries of those services;

(ii) The extent to which entities that are to be served by the proposed technical assistance project demonstrate support for the project;

(iii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project reflect up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;

(iv) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services; and

(v) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(c) Quality of the management plan (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;

(ii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project;

(iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project; and

(iv) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.

(d) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(e) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project; and

(v) The potential for the incorporation of project purposes, activities, or benefits into the ongoing program of the agency or organization at the end of Federal funding.

(f) Quality of the project evaluation (25 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies;

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible;

(iii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes; and

(iv) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

PRIORITY DESCRIPTION
AND
SELECTION CRITERIA
FOR THE
TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA
SERVICES FOR
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

**STEPPINGSTONES OF TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION FOR STUDENTS
WITH DISABILITIES**
(CFDA 84.327A)

DEADLINE: 12/08/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

The purpose of this priority is to support projects that --

(a) Develop or select and describe a technology-based approach for achieving one or more of the following purposes for early intervention, preschool, elementary, middle school, or high school students with disabilities: (1) improving the results of education or early intervention;

(2) improving access to and participation in the general curriculum, or appropriate activities for preschool children; and (3) improving accountability and participation in educational reform. The technology-based approach must be an innovative combination of a new technology and additional materials and methodologies that enable the technology to achieve educational purposes for students with disabilities;

(b) Justify the approach on the basis of research or theory that supports the effectiveness of the technology-based approach for achieving one or more of the purposes presented in paragraph (a);

(c) Clearly identify and conduct work in ONE of the following phases:

(1) Phase 1 - Development: Projects funded under Phase 1 must develop and refine a technology-based approach, and test its feasibility for use with students with disabilities. Activities may include development, adaptation, and refinement of technology, curriculum materials, or instructional methodologies. Activities must include formative evaluation. The primary product of Phase 1 should be a promising technology-based approach that is suitable for field-based evaluation of effectiveness.

(2) Phase 2 - Research on Effectiveness: Projects funded under Phase 2 must select a promising technology-based approach that has been developed in a manner consistent with Phase 1, and subject the approach to rigorous field-based research and evaluation to determine effectiveness and feasibility in educational or early intervention settings. Approaches studied in Phase 2 may have been developed with previous funding under this priority or with funding from other sources. Products of Phase 2 include a further refinement and description of the technology-based approach, and sound evidence that, in a defined range of real world contexts, the approach can be effective in achieving one or more of the purposes presented in paragraph (a).

(3) Phase 3 - Research on Implementation: Projects funded under Phase 3 must select a technology-based approach that has been evaluated for effectiveness and feasibility in a manner

consistent with Phase 2, and must study the implementation of the approach in multiple, complex settings to acquire an improved understanding of the range of contexts in which the approach can be used effectively, and the factors that determine the effectiveness and sustainability of the approach in this range of contexts. Approaches studied in Phase 3 may have been developed and tested with previous funding under this priority or with funding from other sources. Factors to be studied in Phase 3 include factors related to the technology, materials, and methodologies that constitute the technology-based approach. Also to be studied in Phase 3 are contextual factors associated with students, teacher attitudes and skills, physical setting, curricular and instructional or early intervention approaches, resources, professional development, policy supports, etc. Phases 2 and 3 can be contrasted as follows: Phase 2 studies the effectiveness the approach can have, while Phase 3 studies the effectiveness the approach is likely to have in sustained use in a range of typical educational settings. The primary product of Phase 3 should be a set of research findings that can be used to guide dissemination and utilization of the technology-based approach;

(d) In addition to the annual two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. mentioned in the "General Requirements" section of this notice, budget for another annual trip to Washington, D.C. to collaborate with the Federal project officer and the other projects funded under this priority, and to share information and discuss findings and methods of dissemination; and

(e) Prepare products from the project in formats that are useful for specific audiences as appropriate, including parents, administrators, teachers, early intervention personnel, related services personnel, researchers, and individuals with disabilities.

PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO 3: We intend to fund at least two projects focusing on technology-based approaches for children with disabilities, ages birth to 3.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: We intend to fund at least three projects in each phase. Projects funded under Phase 1 will be funded for up to 24 months. Projects funded under Phase 2 will be funded for up to 24 months. Projects funded under Phase 3 will be funded for up to 36 months. During the final year of projects funded under Phase 3, we will determine whether or not to fund an optional six-month period for additional dissemination activities.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$200,000 for projects in Phases 1 and 2, and \$300,000 for projects in Phase 3. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 50 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) Projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed in the "Page Limits" section under the applicable priority in this notice using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for each of these priorities are included in the funding application packet for the applicable competition.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, other public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, outlying areas, freely associated States, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and for-profit organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE STEPPINGSTONES OF TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (CFDA 84.327A) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Steppingstones of Technology Innovation for Students with Disabilities (CFDA 84.327A) competition are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Significance (20 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The significance of the problem or issue to be addressed by the proposed project;
 - (ii) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increase knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;
 - (iii) The potential contribution of the proposed project to the development and advancement of theory, knowledge, and practices in the field of study; and
 - (iv) The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies.

(b) Quality of the project design (35 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (i) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice;
- (ii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for project implementation, and the use of appropriate methodological tools to ensure successful achievement of project objectives;
- (iii) The extent to which the proposed project encourages parental involvement; and
- (iv) The extent to which the proposed project encourages consumer involvement.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.
- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and
 - (ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(d) Quality of the management plan (15 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;
 - (ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and
 - (iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

(e) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

**ACCESSIBLE MEDIA FOR STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS AND
PRINT DISABILITIES**
(CFDA 84.327K)

DEADLINE: 10/13/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

BACKGROUND:

According to the U.S. Department of Education's 1999 21st Annual Report to Congress, there were approximately 5.4 million students with disabilities aged 6 through 21 served by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in school year 1997-1998, including 26,070 students who are blind or visually impaired. We currently support one cooperative agreement to provide textbooks and other educational materials in accessible formats by recording, producing, duplicating, and distributing tapes of printed textbooks. In addition, we will also support one cooperative agreement to apply new technology for producing and distributing educational materials. In an effort to continue to meet the needs of these special populations, we must continue to move forward and capitalize on advanced technology to serve visually impaired and other print disabled students in elementary, secondary, postsecondary and graduate schools.

PRIORITY:

The purpose of this priority is to promote the utilization of advanced technology to support the translation of printed educational media to alternative formats for use by students with visual impairments and print disabilities. This priority supports the distribution of free educational materials through mediums such as CD-ROMs, the Internet, and audio tapes, using technology such as electronic text and digital audio synchronization.

To be considered for funding under this priority, the project must--

(a) Handle requests for educational materials, from students who are visually or print disabled at all educational levels without charging for materials or memberships fees.

(b) Obtain statements of eligibility by disability for each requestor.

(c) Coordinate and collaborate with publishers, software developers, and manufacturers of accessible materials for individuals who are visually impaired or otherwise print disabled to utilize technology to allow access to textbooks and other educational materials via the Internet, CD-Roms, and audio tapes, using technology such as electronic text and digital audio synchronization.

(d) Apply new technology for producing and distributing educational materials in accessible formats for individuals who are blind or otherwise print disabled.

(e) Coordinate with disability and educational organizations, and government agencies to ensure effective coordination and nonduplication of effort.

(f) Ensure the project activities are conducted in compliance with section 121 of the Copyright Act, as amended.

(g) Ensure that publishers have the rights to copies of the materials distributed at no charge and rights to market those materials.

(h) To the extent that funds are not sufficient to meet the demand for free materials, place a priority on providing free materials that are not otherwise required to be provided by educational agencies or institutions.

(i) Identify outreach activities that will be conducted.

(j) Establish an advisory group consisting of parents of students who are visually impaired or print disabled, consumers who are visually impaired or print disabled, and schools or other institutions where accessible products are used to provide input on the impact of program activities and services and project goals and objectives.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 36 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$6,000,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 70 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the “General Requirements” section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) Projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors’ meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed in the "Page Limits" section under the applicable priority in this notice using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or

- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general

selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for each of these priorities are included in the funding application packet for the applicable competition.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, other public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, outlying areas, freely associated States, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and for-profit organizations.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE ACCESSIBLE MEDIA FOR STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS AND PRINT DISABILITIES (CFDA 84.327K) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Accessible Media for Students with Visual Impairments and Print Disabilities (CFDA 84.327K) competition are the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Need for project (10 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - (i) The magnitude of the need for the services to be provided or the activities to be carried out by the proposed project; and
 - (ii) The extent to which the proposed project will focus on serving or otherwise addressing the needs of disadvantaged individuals.

(b) Quality of project services (30 points)

- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
- (2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.
- (3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor:

(i) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are appropriate to the needs of the intended recipients or beneficiaries of those services.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director or principal investigator;

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(iii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(d) Quality of the management plan (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and

(iii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project.

(e) Adequacy of resources (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project;

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project;

(v) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits; and

(vi) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.

PRIORITY DESCRIPTION
AND
SELECTION CRITERIA
FOR THE
TRAINING AND INFORMATION
FOR PARENTS OF
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

COMMUNITY PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS
(CFDA 84.328C)

DEADLINE: 11/03/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this priority is to support local parent training and information centers that will help ensure that underserved parents of children with disabilities, including low-income parents, parents of children with limited English proficiency, and parents with disabilities, have the training and information they need to enable them to participate effectively in helping their children with disabilities to --

(a) Meet developmental goals and, to the maximum extent possible, those challenging standards that have been established for all children; and

(b) Be prepared to lead productive independent adult lives, to the maximum extent possible.

Each community parent training and information center supported under this priority must --

(a) Provide training and information that meets the training and information needs of parents of children with disabilities proposed to be served by the project;

(b) Assist parents to understand the availability of, and how to effectively use, procedural safeguards under Section 615 of the Act, including encouraging the use, and explaining the benefits, of alternative methods of dispute resolution, such as the mediation process described in the Act;

(c) Serve the parents of infants, toddlers, and children with the full range of disabilities by assisting parents to --

(1) Better understand the nature of their children's disabilities and their educational and developmental needs;

(2) Communicate effectively with personnel responsible for providing special education, early intervention, and related services;

(3) Participate in decision-making processes and the development of individualized education programs and individualized family service plans;

(4) Obtain appropriate information about the range of options, programs, services, and resources available to assist children with disabilities and their families;

(5) Understand the provisions of the Act for the education of, and the provision of early intervention services to, children with disabilities; and

(6) Participate in school reform activities;

(d) Contract with the State educational agencies, if the State elects to contract with the community parent resource centers, for the purpose of meeting with parents who choose not to use the mediation process to encourage the use and explain the benefits of mediation, consistent with sections 615(e)(2)(B) and (D) of the Act;

(e) In order to serve parents and families of children with the full range of disabilities, network with appropriate clearinghouses, including organizations conducting national dissemination activities under section 685(d) of the Act, and with other national, State, and local organizations and agencies, such as protection and advocacy agencies;

(f) Establish cooperative partnerships with the parent training and information centers funded under section 682 of the Act;

(g) Be designed to meet the specific needs of families who experience significant isolation from available sources of information and support; and

(h) Annually report to the Assistant Secretary on --

(1) The number of parents to whom it provided information and training in the most recently concluded fiscal year; and

(2) The effectiveness of strategies used to reach and serve parents, including underserved parents of children with disabilities.

We intend to fund a maximum of fifteen awards.

Competitive Preferences:

Within this absolute priority, we will give competitive preference to applications under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) that meet one or more of the following priorities:

(1) We will award 20 points to an application submitted by a local parent organization that has a board of directors, the majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities, from the community to be served.

(2) We will award 5 points to an application that proposes to provide services to one or more Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities that are designated within the areas served by projects. To meet this priority an applicant must indicate that it will:

(a)(i) Design a program that includes special activities focused on the unique needs of one or more Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities; or

(ii) Devote a substantial portion of program resources to providing services within, or meeting the needs of residents of these zones and communities.

(b) As appropriate, contribute to the strategic plan of the Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities and become an integral component of the Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community activities.

A list of areas that have been selected as Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities is included in the application package.

(3) We will award up to five (5) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the General Requirements section of this notice (Section 606 of IDEA). In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of these competitive preferences, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 30 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting all of these competitive preferences could earn a maximum total of 130 points.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 36 months.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$100,000. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 30 double-spaced pages.

Note: Applications must meet the required page limit standards that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) Projects funded under these priorities must attend for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed in the "Page Limits" section under the applicable priority in this notice using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Eligible applicants are local parent organizations. According to section 682(g), a parent organization is a private nonprofit organization (other than an institution of higher education) that:

(a) Has a board of directors --

(1) The parent and professional members of which are broadly representative of the population to be served;

(2) The majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities; and

(3) That includes individuals with disabilities and individuals working in the fields of special education, related services, and early intervention; or

(b) Has a membership that represents the interests of individuals with disabilities and has established a special governing committee meeting the requirements for a board of directors in paragraph (a) and has a memorandum of understanding between this special governing committee and the board of directors of the organization that clearly outlines the relationship between the board and the committee and the decision making responsibilities and authority of each.

According to section 683(c), local parent organizations are parent organizations that must meet one of the following criteria --

(a) Have a board of directors the majority of whom are from the community to be served;
or

(b) Have, as part of their mission, serving the interests of individuals with disabilities from those community; and have a special governing committee to administer the project, a majority of the members of which are individuals from those community.

Examples of administrative responsibilities include controlling the use of the project funds, and hiring and managing project personnel.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The selection criteria for this priority that are drawn from the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The specific selection criteria for this priority are included in the funding application packet for this competition.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE COMMUNITY PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS (CFDA 84.328C) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Community Parent Resource Centers (CFDA 84.328C) competition is the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Significance (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies;

(ii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population; and

(iii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project.

(b) Quality of the project design (25 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable;

(ii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs;

(iii) The extent to which the proposed project will establish linkages with other appropriate agencies and organizations providing services to the target population;

(iv) The extent to which the proposed project encourages parental involvement; and

(v) The extent to which the proposed project encourages consumer involvement.

(c) Quality of project personnel (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director or principal investigator; and

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(d) Adequacy of resources (15 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(ii) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

(e) Quality of the management plan (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks; and

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

PRIORITY DESCRIPTION
AND
SELECTION CRITERIA
FOR THE
SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDIES
AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

NATIONAL EARLY INTERVENTION LONGITUDINAL STUDY
(CFDA 84.329E)

DEADLINE: 10/13/00

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY:

BACKGROUND:

In 1995, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) determined that there was a critical need to discern the immediate and long-term effects of Part H, now called Part C, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act on infants and toddlers and their families, as well as on service providers. That program, provides early intervention services for children under three years of age and their families. In order to obtain that information, OSEP funded a cooperative agreement with SRI International for SRI to conduct a longitudinal study of a cohort of entrants into Part C. The main study questions are as follows:

- (a) Who are the children and families receiving early intervention services?
- (b) What early intervention services do participating children and families receive and how are these services delivered?
- (c) What outcomes do participating children and families experience?
- (d) How do outcomes relate to variations in child and family characteristics and services provided?

The study will follow a group of more than 3,300 children between ages 0 through 2 at the time of recruitment (1997 – 1998) through the time that each child completes kindergarten. The sample is now approximately 3, 4 and 5 years of age. The original five-year grant is not long enough to follow all the children until they complete kindergarten.

PRIORITY:

We will establish an absolute priority for a project to continue the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS) until each of the children in that study has completed kindergarten. The project must analyze the data and present a plan for a future study to examine a new cohort of entrants into the Part C program. The project officer will provide the awarded project with a copy of the questionnaires to be used in the project. The project must:

- (a) Plan for and direct the smooth transition of projected-related resources from SRI International;

(b) Compare and evaluate different patterns of child development related to long-term results for children and their families through longitudinal analyses;

(c) Assess the effects of socioeconomic, demographic and health-related variables on long-term developmental and behavioral characteristics of the children;

(d) Incorporate factors related to body structure, body function, personal functioning, and the interaction with the environment with these variables that could result in a disadvantage limiting or preventing the fulfillment of an age-appropriate role;

(e) Isolate and explain the long-term effects of intervention on children and their families; and

(f) Present a comprehensive plan for assessing a new cohort of infants and toddlers served under Part C.

In addition to the annual two-day Research Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. mentioned in the "General Requirements" section of this notice, the project must budget for four additional annual meetings in Washington, D.C. for: (1) an Early Childhood Project Directors' Meeting; (2) a Part C Directors' meeting; and (3) an additional two meetings, to meet and collaborate with the project officer from the Office of Special Education programs (OSEP) and with representatives from other relevant OSEP funded projects.

PROJECT PERIOD: Under this award, we will make one award for a cooperative agreement with a project period of up to 60 months subject to the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a) for continuation awards.

Competitive Preference:

Within this absolute priority, we will give the following competitive preference under section 606 of IDEA and 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), to applications that are otherwise eligible for funding under this priority:

Up to ten (10) points based on the effectiveness of the applicant's strategies for employing and advancing in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities as required under paragraph (a) of the "General Requirements" section of this notice. In determining the effectiveness of those strategies, we may consider the applicant's past success in pursuit of this goal.

Therefore, for purposes of this competitive preference, applicants can be awarded up to a total of 10 points in addition to those awarded under the published selection criteria for this priority. That is, an applicant meeting this competitive preference could earn a maximum total of 110 points.

MAXIMUM AWARD: The maximum award amount is \$1,100,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$1,200,000 for fiscal year 2002, \$1,300,000 for fiscal year 2003, and \$400,000 per year for fiscal years 2004 and 2005. Consistent with EDGAR 34 CFR 75.104(b), we will reject any application that proposes a project funding level for any year that exceeds the stated maximum award amount for that year. We will consider, and may fund, requests for additional funding as an addendum to an application to reflect the costs of reasonable accommodations necessary to allow individuals with disabilities to be employed on the project as personnel on project activities.

PAGE LIMITS: The maximum page limit for this priority is 70 double-spaced pages.

NOTE: Applicants must meet the required page limits that are described in the "General Requirements" section of this notice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities (see Section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA).

(c) Projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

(d) In a single application, an applicant must address only one absolute priority in this notice.

(e) Part III of each application submitted under a priority in this notice, the application narrative, is where an applicant addresses the selection criteria that are used by reviewers in evaluating the application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than the number of pages listed in the "Page Limits" section under the applicable priority in this notice using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11" (on one side only) with one-inch margins (top, bottom, and sides).
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- If using a proportional computer font, use no smaller than a 12-point font, and an average character density no greater than 18 characters per inch. If using a nonproportional font or a typewriter, do not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I - the cover sheet; Part II - the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography or references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject without consideration or evaluation any application if –

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State and local educational agencies; institutions of higher education; other public agencies; for-profit organizations; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; and Indian tribes or tribal organizations.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; (b) The selection criteria for the priorities under this program are drawn from the EDGAR general selection menu. The specific selection criteria for each priority are included in the funding application packet for the applicable competition.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

For further information about this priority contact:

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMAT FOR THE NATIONAL EARLY INTERVENTION LONGITUDINAL STUDY (CFDA 84.329E) COMPETITION

Part III of the application form requires a narrative that addresses the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual proposals. Applications are more likely to receive favorable reviews by panels when they are organized according to the format suggested below. This format was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as an appendix to the program regulations, and it addresses all the selection criteria used to evaluate applications required by regulations. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

The selection criteria that will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (CFDA 84.329E) competition is the selection criteria for new grants required by the EDGAR general selection criteria menu. The maximum score for all of the criteria is 100 points.

A one-page **abstract** should precede the application narrative. The application narrative should include the following sections in this order:

(a) Quality of the project design (40 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework;

(ii) The extent to which the proposed research design includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for research activities, and the use of appropriate theoretical and methodological tools, including those of a variety of disciplines, if appropriate;

(iii) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition

(b) Quality of project personnel (25 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel;
and

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

(c) Adequacy of resources (15 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization;

(ii) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project;

(iii) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project; and

(iv) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

(d) Quality of the management plan (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project; and

(iii) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

GENERAL INFORMATION
ON COMPLETING
AN APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION ON COMPLETING AN APPLICATION

Potential applicants frequently direct questions to officials of the Department regarding application notices and programmatic and administrative regulations governing various direct grant programs. To assist potential applicants, the Office of Special Education Programs staff have assembled the following most commonly raised issues. In general, this information applies to the grant competitions covered by this application package.

- **EXTENSION OF DEADLINES**

Waivers for individual applications are not granted, regardless of the circumstances. Under very extraordinary circumstances a closing date may be changed. Such changes are announced in the Federal Register.

- **COPIES OF THE APPLICATION**

Current Government-wide policy is that only AN ORIGINAL AND THREE COPIES need to be submitted. Copies of the application may be bound, but it is not necessary or required. If bound, one copy should be left unbound to facilitate electronic scanning and any necessary reproduction. Applicants should not use colored paper, foldouts, photographs, or other materials that are hard to duplicate.

- **MAKING APPLICATIONS MORE ACCESSIBLE TO REVIEWERS WHO ARE BLIND OR HAVE LOW VISION**

The Secretary will accept one copy of the application in an accessible format (i.e., IBM PC compatible WordPerfect or ASCII code diskette) along with the original and three print copies of the application. The accessible format copy can be used with available software to convert the text of the application into Braille, or with text to voice applications. If there are any differences in the print original provided on the disk and in print, the print original is assumed to be the correct version.

- **MISSED DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION UNDER OTHER COMPETITIONS**

Should an application miss the deadline for a particular competition, it may be submitted to another competition. However, if an application is properly prepared to meet the specifications of one competition, it is extremely unlikely that it would be favorably evaluated under a different competition.

- **SUBMISSION TO MORE THAN ONE PROGRAM**

Applications may be submitted to more than one Federal program if you are unsure of the most appropriate program. Each application should be prepared following the instructions for that particular program as closely as possible (which may require some reformulation). It

is very helpful if each program is notified that an identical or similar application is being submitted to another program.

- **HELP PREPARING APPLICATIONS**

We are happy to provide general program information. Clearly it would not be appropriate for staff to participate in the actual writing of an application, but we can respond to specific questions about our application requirements and evaluation criteria, or about the announced priorities. Applicants should understand that such previous contact is not required, nor does it guarantee the success of an application.

- **NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING**

The time required to complete the evaluation of applications is variable. Once applications have been received staff must determine the areas of expertise needed to appropriately evaluate the applications, identify and contact potential reviewers, convene peer review panels, and summarize and review the recommendations of the review panels. You can expect to receive notification within 3 to 6 months of the application closing date, depending on the number of applications received and the number of competitions with closing dates at about the same time. The requested start date should therefore be a minimum of 6 months after the application closing date.

- **POSSIBILITY OF LEARNING THE OUTCOME OF REVIEW PANELS PRIOR TO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION**

Every year we are called by a number of applicants who have legitimate reasons for needing to know the outcome of the review prior to official notification. Some applicants need to make job decisions, some need to notify a local school district, etc. Regardless of the reason, we cannot share information about the review with anyone until the Assistant Secretary has approved a slate of projects recommended for funding. You will be notified as quickly as possible either by telephone (if your application is recommended for funding), or through a letter (if your application is not successful).

- **FORMAT FOR APPLICATIONS**

The application narrative (Part III of the application form) should be organized to follow the exact sequence of the components in the selection criteria used to evaluate applications. (The selection criteria for the competition covered by this packet is listed following the specific competition information in section “C” of this packet.) A table of contents, list of priority requirements, and a one-page abstract summarizing the objectives, activities, project participants, and expected outcomes of the proposed project should precede the application narrative. If you prefer to use a different format, you may wish to cross-reference the sections of your application to the selection criteria to be sure that reviewers are able to find all relevant information.

To aid in screening and reviewing the application, applicants should list in Part II and prior to the abstract, all general, special, and other requirements for the priority and corresponding page number (s) where requirements are addressed within the application. Page limits do not apply to this list. (All requirements are found in each priority description included in this application package.) The format included below is an example of how you might provide this information in your application.

Page #	Requirements
_____	(a) Projects funded under this notice must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities in project activities. (See Section 606 of IDEA)
_____	(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this notice must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects. (See Section 661(f)(1)(A) of IDEA)
_____	(c) Applicant must describe steps to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. (See Section 427, GEPA)
_____	(d) Projects funded under these priorities must budget for a two-day Project's Directors' meeting in Washington, D.C. during each year of the project.

- **BEST WAY TO PREPARE PROGRAM ABSTRACT**

The program abstract should be one page in length. It would be helpful if it included; the title of the program, the name of the Absolute Priority, and the CFDA Number (e.g., 84.324R, etc.).

- **PAGE LIMITS**

Please note that all applications submitted under the competition in this application package must adhere to the Part III - Application Narrative page limit requirements that are specified under each priority/competition description. Your application should provide enough information to allow the review panel to evaluate the importance and impact of the project as well as to make knowledgeable judgments about the methods you propose to use (design, subjects, sampling procedures, measures, instruments, data analysis strategies, etc.). It is often helpful to have:

- (l) Staff Vitae--They should include each person's title and role in the proposed project and contain only information that is relevant to this proposed project's activities and/or publications. Vitae for consultants and Advisory Council members should be similarly brief.

- (2) Instruments--except in the case of generally available and well known instruments.
- (3) Agreements--when the participation of an agency other than the applicant is critical to the project. This is particularly critical when an intervention will be implemented within an agency, or when subjects will be drawn from particular agencies. Letters of cooperation should be specific, indicating agreement to implement a particular intervention or to provide access to a particular group of students.

- **MAKING SURE APPLICATION IS ASSIGNED TO THE CORRECT COMPETITION**

Applicants should clearly indicate in Item 3 on the application (ED Form 424) the CFDA number of the program priority (e.g., 84.324M, etc.) representing the competition in which the application should be considered. If this information is not provided, your application may inadvertently be assigned and reviewed under a different competition from the one you intended.

- **RETURN OF NON-FUNDED APPLICATIONS**

We do not return original copies of applications. Thus, applicants should retain at least one copy of the application. Copies of reviewer comments will be mailed to all applicants.

- **PROPOSED STAFF AVAILABILITY TO PROJECT**

For each staff person named in the application, please provide documentation of all internal and external time commitments. In instances where a staff person is committed on a federally supported project, please provide the project name, Federal office, program title, the project Federal award number, and the amount of committed time by each project year. This information (e.g., Staff: Jane Doe; Project Name: Succeeding in the General Curriculum; Federal office: Office of Special Education Programs; Program title: Field Initiated Research; Award number: H324C980624; Time commitments: Year 1—30%; Year 2—25% and Year 3—40%) can be provided as an Appendix to the application.

In general, we will not reduce time commitments on currently funded grants from the time proposed in the original application. Therefore, we will not consider for funding any application where key staff are bid above a time commitment level that staff have available to bid. Further, the time commitments stated in newly submitted applications will not be negotiated down to permit the applicant to receive a new grant award.

- **USE OF PERSON LOADING CHARTS**

It is important for applicants to include proposed time commitments for all project personnel. Also, program officials and applicants often find person loading charts useful formats for showing project personnel and their time commitments to individual activities. A person loading chart is a tabular representation of major evaluation activities by number of days spent by each key person involved in each activity, as shown in the following example.

Table #
Person Loading Chart - Time in Day(s) by Person*

Activity	Time in Day(s) by Person			
	Person A	Person B	Person C	Person D
Library Research	15	20	0	0
Hire Staff	0	0	0	5
Prepare Materials	5	25	0	0
Train Raters	0	2	0	0
Data Collection	60	60	0	0
Data Analysis	0	0	25	5
Dissemination (manuscripts, etc.)	0	1	0	10

*Note: All figures represent FTE for the academic year.

- DELIVERING/SENDING APPLICATIONS TO THE COMPETITION MANAGER

Applications can be mailed or hand delivered, but in either case must go to the Application Control Center at the address listed in the Application Transmittal Instructions (E-1). Delivering or sending the application to the competition manager in the program office may prevent it from being logged in on time to the appropriate competition and may result in the application not being reviewed.

- ALLOWED TRAVEL UNDER THESE PROJECTS

Travel is allowed if the travel specifically relates to the expressed goals of the project. Travel by students to further their education under the project's goals is also allowed. Travel to conferences is the travel item that is most likely to be questioned during negotiations. Such travel is sometimes allowed when it is for purposes of dissemination, when there will be results to be disseminated, and when it is clear that a conference presentation or workshop is an effective way of reaching a particular target group.

- FUNDING OF APPROVED APPLICATIONS

It is often the case that the number of applications recommended for approval by the reviewers exceeds the dollars available for funding projects under a particular competition. When the panel reviews are completed for a particular competition, the individual reviewer scores and applications are ranked. The higher ranked, approved applications are funded first, and there are often lower ranked, approved applications that do not receive funding. Sometimes, one or two applications that are approved and fall next in rank order (after those projects selected for funding) are placed on hold. If dollars become available as a result of negotiations, or if a higher ranked applicant declines the award, the projects on hold may receive funding. If you receive a letter stating that you will not receive funding, then your project has neither been selected for funding nor placed on hold.

- **INDIRECT COST RATE**

For the competitions under the Personnel Preparation to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program, the indirect cost rate may not exceed eight percent of the direct costs. Please remember, that recent changes in the indirect costs calculations now removes the cost for student support; traineeships, stipends, tuition, from the direct cost line item. Students' costs are not subject to indirect cost rates. There is no maximum indirect cost for the competitions in this application package. An organization's current effective indirect cost rate is the rate that should be reflected in your proposed budget.

- **ISSUES RAISED DURING DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO AWARD**

If your application is recommended for funding, discussions may be held prior to award to clarify technical or budget issues. These are issues that have been identified during panel and staff review. Generally, technical issues are minor issues that require clarification. Alternative approaches may be presented for your consideration, or you may be asked to provide additional information or rationale for something you have proposed to do. Sometimes, concerns are stated as "conditions". These are concerns that have been identified as so critical that the award cannot be made unless those conditions are met. Questions are also raised about the proposed budget during the discussion phase. Generally, budget issues are raised because there is inadequate justification or explanation of the particular budget item, or because the budget item does not seem critical to the successful completion of the project. A Federal project officer will present the issues to you and ask you to respond. If you do not understand the question, you should ask for clarification. In responding to discussion items you should provide any additional information or clarification requested. You may feel that an issue was addressed in the application. It may not, however, have been explained in enough detail to make it understood by reviewers, and more information should be provided. If you are asked to make changes that you feel could seriously affect the project's success, you may provide reasons for not making the changes, or provide alternative suggestions. Similarly, if proposed budget reductions will, in your opinion, seriously affect the proposed activities, you may want to explain why and provide additional justification for the proposed expenses. Your changes, explanations, and alternative suggestions will be carefully evaluated by staff. In some instances, an applicant may again be contacted for additional information. An award cannot be made until all issues have been resolved and conditions met.

- TREATING A PRIORITY AS TWO SEPARATE COMPETITIONS. In the past, there have been problems in finding peer reviewers without conflicts of interest where applications are made by many entities throughout the country. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA '97 have also placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Secretary has determined that, for some discretionary priorities, applications may be ranked and selected for funding in two or more groups, which will ensure the availability of a much larger group of reviewers without conflicts of interest. This procedure will increase the quality, independence and fairness of the review process and will permit panel members to review applications under discretionary priorities to which they have also submitted applications.
- **SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS AND ESTIMATED/PROJECTED BUDGET AMOUNTS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS**

There is a maximum award amount specified for the priority/competition included in this package. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum amount for any single budget period of 12 months for the priority included in this package. Please refer to the priority description to determine the maximum award for any one particular competition. Since the yearly budgets for multi-year projects will be negotiated at the time of the initial award, applicants must include detailed budgets for each year of their proposed project. Generally, out-year funding levels most likely will not exceed 1st year budgets. However, budget modifications during the negotiation process, the findings from the previous year, or needed changes in the study design can affect your budget requirements in subsequent years, but in no case will out-year budgets exceed the maximum award amount.

- **REQUIREMENT TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF GRANT ACTIVITIES**

The Secretary shall, where appropriate, require recipients of all grants, contracts and cooperative agreements under Part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to prepare reports describing their procedures, findings, and other relevant information. The Secretary shall require their delivery to the Department of Education and to the ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education, and other networks as the Secretary may determine appropriate. (20 U.S.C. 1461)

- **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AND A GRANT**

A cooperative agreement is similar to a grant in that its principal purpose is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation as authorized by a Federal statute. It differs from a grant in the sense that in a cooperative agreement substantial involvement is anticipated between the executive agency (in this case the Department of Education) and the recipient during the performance of the contemplated activity.

- **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY, AN INVITATIONAL PRIORITY, AND A COMPETITIVE PRIORITY**

An absolute priority is a priority that an applicant must address in order to receive an award. If an applicant does not address an absolute priority, their application will be returned as being non-responsive to the priority.

An invitational priority is a priority that reflects a particular interest of the Department, and an applicant is encouraged to address the invitational priority along with the required absolute priority. However, an applicant choosing to address an invitational priority, will not receive any competitive preference over other applications.

A competitive priority is like an invitational priority in that it reflects a particular interest of the Department, and an applicant is encouraged to address the competitive priority along with the required absolute priority. A competitive priority may be handled in one of two ways: (1) an application may be awarded additional points depending on how effectively it addresses the competitive priority; or (2) an application that meets a competitive priority may be selected over an application of comparable merit that does not address the competitive priority. The type of competitive priority for a particular competition is always included in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcement.

- **OBTAINING COPIES OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER, PROGRAM REGULATIONS AND FEDERAL STATUTES**

Copies of these materials can usually be found at your local library. If not, they can be obtained by writing to:

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402
Telephone: (202) 512-1800.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's grant information web page which can be accessed on the INTERNET at: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/grntinfo.htm> or on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ed.gov/money.html>. However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS
AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

An application for an award must be postmarked or hand delivered by the closing date.

Applications Sent by Mail

An application sent by mail must be addressed to the U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: CFDA 84.__(be sure to include the correct alpha and numeric description - e.g., 84.324B), 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-4725.

An application must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service Postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the U.S. Secretary of Education.

If an application is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with its local post office.

An applicant is encouraged to use registered or at least first class mail.

Each late applicant will be notified that its application will not be considered.

Applications Delivered by Hand/Courier Service

An application that is hand delivered must be taken to the U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Room 3633, General Services Administration National Capital Region, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-4725. Telephone: (202) 708-9493.

The Application Control Center will accept deliveries between 8:00 a.m., and 4:30 p.m. (Washington, D.C. time) daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Individuals delivering applications must use the D Street Entrance. Proper identification is necessary to enter the building.

In order for an application sent through a Courier Service to be considered timely, the Courier Service must be in receipt of the application on or before the closing date.

Appendix

Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs

This appendix applies to each program that is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and to strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for State and local government coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

Applicants must contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact to find out about, and to comply with, the State's process under Executive Order 12372. Applicants proposing to perform activities in more than one State should immediately contact the Single Point of Contact for each of those States and follow the procedure established in each of those States under the Executive order. A listing containing the Single Point of Contact for each State is included in this appendix.

In States that have not established a process or chosen a program for review, State, areawide, regional, and local entities may submit comments directly to the Department.

Any State Process Recommendation and other comments submitted by a State Single Point of Contact and any comments from State, areawide, regional, and local entities must be mailed or hand-delivered by the date indicated in the actual application notice to the following address:

The Secretary
EO 12372--CFDA# [commenter must insert number--including suffix letter, if any]
U.S. Department of Education Room
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Proof of mailing will be determined on the same basis as applications (see 34 CFR 75.102). Recommendations or comments may be hand-delivered until 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on the date indicated in the actual application notice.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ABOVE ADDRESS IS NOT THE SAME ADDRESS AS THE ONE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT SUBMITS ITS COMPLETED APPLICATION. DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

STATE SINGLE POINTS OF CONTACT

(As of October 1, 1999)

Note: In accordance with Executive Order #12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, this listing represents the designated State Single Points of Contact (SSPOCs). Because participation is voluntary, some States and Territories no longer participate in the process. These include: Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

The jurisdictions not listed no longer participate in the process. However, an applicant is still eligible to apply for a grant or grants even if its respective State, Territory, Commonwealth, etc. does not have a (SSPOC).

<p>ARIZONA</p> <p>Ms. Joni Saad State of Arizona Arizona Department of Commerce Office of Economic Planning and Development Arizona State Clearinghouse 3800 North Central Avenue, Fourteenth Floor Phoenix, Arizona 85012 Telephone: (602) 280-1315 FAX: (602) 280-8144 Jonis@ep.state.az.us</p>	<p>ARKANSAS</p> <p>Mr. Tracy L. Copeland Manager, State Clearinghouse State of Arkansas Office of Intergovernmental Services Department of Finance and Administration 1515 7th Street, Room 412 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203 Telephone: (501) 682-1074 FAX: (501) 682-5206 TlCopeland@dfa.state.ar.us</p>
<p>CALIFORNIA</p> <p>State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse Attn: Sheila Brown Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Telephone: (916) 445-0613 FAX: (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov/clearinghouse.html</p>	<p>DELAWARE</p> <p>State of Delaware Executive Department Office of the Budget Charles H. Hopkins Deputy Director 540 S. Dupont Highway 3rd Floor Dover, DE 19901 Telephone: (302) 739-3323 FAX: (302) 739-5661 Chopkins@state.de.us http://www.state.de.us/budget/budget.htm</p>
<p>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</p> <p>Mr. Charles Nichols State Single Point of Contact Government of the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer Office of Grants Management and Development 717 14th Street, NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005 Telephone: (202) 727-1700 (Direct) Telephone: (202) 727-6537 (Secretary) FAX: (202) 727-1617 E-mail: OGMD-OGMD@dcgov.org</p>	<p>FLORIDA</p> <p>State of Florida Florida State Clearinghouse Department of Community Affairs 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100 Telephone: (850) 922-5438 FAX: (850) 414-0479 Contact: Ms. Cherie Trainor Telephone: (850) 414-5495 Cherie.trainor@dca.state.fl.us</p>

<p>GEORGIA</p> <p>Ms. Debra Stephens, Coordinator State of Georgia Office of Planning and Budget Georgia State Clearinghouse 270 Washington Street, S.W. 8th Floor Atlanta, GA 30334 Telephone: (404) 656-3855 FAX: (404) 656-7901 ssda@mail.opb.state.ga.us</p>	<p>ILLINOIS</p> <p>Ms. Virginia Bova, State Single Point of Contact State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs Policy Development/Planning & Research James R. Thompson Center 100 West Randolph, Suite 3-400 Chicago, IL 60601 Telephone: (312) 814-6028 FAX: (312) 814-1800 vbova@commerce.state.il.us http://www.state.il.us/fedclear/</p>
<p>INDIANA</p> <p>Ms. Allison Becker, Budget Analyst State of Indiana Indiana State Budget Agency Office of the Director 212 State House, Room 121 Indianapolis, IA 46204-2796 Telephone: (317) 232-5610 Telephone: (317) 232-7221 (Direct Line) FAX: (317) 233-3323 http://www.state.in.us/sba/index.html</p>	<p>IOWA</p> <p>Mr. Steven R. McCann State of Iowa Department of Economic Development Community and Rural Development Division City Development Board 200 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50309 Telephone: (515) 242-4719 FAX: (515) 242-4809 Steve.mccann@ided.state.ia.us</p>
<p>KENTUCKY</p> <p>Mr. Kevin J. Goldsmith, Director Ms. Sandra Brewer, Executive Secretary State of Kentucky Intergovernmental Affairs Office of the Governor 700 Capitol Avenue Frankfort, KY 40601 Telephone: (502) 564-2611 FAX: (502) 564-0437 Kgoldmkgosmith@mail.state.ky.us Sbrewer@mail.state.ky.us</p>	<p>MAINE</p> <p>Ms.. Joyce Benson State of Maine Office of the Governor Executive Maine State Planning Office 184 State Street Station #38 Augusta, ME 04333-0038 Telephone: (207) 287-3261 FAX: (207) 287-6489 Joyce.benson@state.me.us</p>

<p>MARYLAND</p> <p>Ms. Linda Janey Manager, Planning and Project Review State of Maryland Maryland Office of Planning 301 W. Preston Street – Room 1104 Baltimore, MD 21201-2365 Telephone: (410) 767-4490 Telephone: (410) 767-4395 FAX: (410) 767-4480 linda@mail.op.state.md.us</p>	<p>MICHIGAN</p> <p>State of Michigan Mr. Richard Pfaff, Regional Review Coordinator Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Federal Project Regional Review 660 Plaza Drive – Suite 1900 Detroit, MI 48226 Telephone: (313) 961-4266 FAX: (313) 961-4869 Pfaff@semcog.org</p>
<p>MISSISSIPPI</p> <p>Ms. Catherine Mallette, Clearinghouse Officer State of Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration 550 High Street 303 Walters Sillers Building Jackson, MS 39201-3087 Telephone: (601) 359-6762 FAX: (601) 359-6758 http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/</p>	<p>MISSOURI</p> <p>Ms. Lois Pohl, Executive Director State of Missouri Office of Administration Division of General Services Missouri Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation Federal Assistance Clearinghouse P.O. Box 809 Jefferson Building, Room 915 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Telephone: (573) 751-4834 FAX: (573) 522-4395 lpohl01@mail.state.mo.us pohl @mail.oa.state.mo.us</p>

<p>NEVADA</p> <p>Ms. Heather Elliott Grants and Project Analyst State of Nevada Department of Administration Budget Division Planning Section Nevada State Clearinghouse/SPOC 209 East Musser Street, Room 200 Carson City, NV 89701-4298 Telephone: (775) 684-0223 Maud Naroll, Chief) Telephone: (775) 684-0209 (Heather Elliott) FAX: (775) 684-0260 Helliot@govmail.state.nv.us</p>	<p>NEW HAMPSHIRE</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey H. Taylor, Director State of New Hampshire Executive Department Office of State Planning Intergovernmental Review Process Attn: Mr. Mike Blake 2½ Beacon Street Concord, NH 03301 Telephone: (603) 271-2155 FAX: (603) 271-1728 Jtaylor@osp.state.nh.us</p>
<p>NEW MEXICO</p> <p>Mr. Nick Mandell, Website Manager State Single Point of Contact State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration Local Government Division New Mexico Federal Clearinghouse Bataan Memorial Building – Room 201 Santa Fe, NM 87503 Telephone: (505) 827-4991 FAX: (505) 827-4984 nmandel@dfa.state.nm.us</p>	<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Ms. Jeanette Furney Intergovernmental Review Coordinator State of North Carolina North Carolina Department of Administration State Clearinghouse 116 West Jones Street – Suite 5106 Raleigh, NC 27603-8003 Telephone: (919) 807-2425 FAX: (919) 733-9571 http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/clearing/welcome.htm jeanette_furney@mail.doa.state.nc.us</p>
<p>NORTH DAKOTA</p> <p>Governor's Office Office of Management & Budget Office of Intergovernmental Assistance Division of Community Services 600 East Boulevard Avenue Department 105 Bismark, ND 58505-0170 Telephone: (701) 328-2094 (Clerical Support) FAX: (701) 328-2308 http://www.state.nd.us/dcs</p>	<p>RHODE ISLAND</p> <p>Mr. Kevin Nelson Review Coordinator State of Rhode Island Department of Administration Office of Library & Information Services Division of Planning One Capitol Hill, 4th Floor Providence RI 02908-5870 Telephone: (401) 222-1220 (Secretary) Telephone: (401) 222-2093 (Direct) FAX: (401) 222-2083 knelson@doa.state.ri.us</p>

<p>SOUTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Ms. Omeagia Burgess Grant Coordinator State of South Carolina Office of State Budget 1122 Ladies Street – 12th Floor Columbia, SC 29201 Telephone: (803) 734-0494 FAX: (803) 734-0645 Aburgess@budget.state.sc.us</p>	<p>TEXAS</p> <p>Mr. Tom Adams Director, Intergovernmental Coordination State of Texas State Single Point of Contact Office of the Governor Office of Budget and Planning P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711-2428 Telephone: (512) 463-1771 FAX: (512) 936-2681 tadams@governor.state.tx.us</p>
<p>UTAH</p> <p>Ms. Carolyn B. Wright, Research Analyst State of Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget Resource Planning/Legal Review 116 State Capitol Salt Lake City, UT 84114 Telephone: (801) 538-1535 (Direct) FAX: (801) 538-1547 cwright@gov.state.ut.us</p>	<p>WEST VIRGINIA</p> <p>Mr. Glenn F. (Fred) Cutlip, Director State of West Virginia West Virginia Development Office Community Development Division Capitol Complex, Bldg. 6, Room 553 1900 Washington Street East Charleston, WV 25305-0311 Telephone: (304) 558-4010 x048 FAX: (304) 558-3248 fcutlip@wvdo.org</p>
<p>WISCONSIN</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey T. Smith, Section Chief State of Wisconsin Wisconsin Department of Administration 101 East Wilson Street – 6th Floor P.O. Box 7868 Madison, WI 53707 Telephone: (608) 266-0267 FAX: (608) 267-6931 jeffrey.smith@doa.state.wi.us</p>	<p>WYOMING</p> <p>Ms. Sandy Ross, Executive Assistant State of Wyoming State Single Point of Contact Department of Administration and Information A&I Planning and Coordination Emerson Building 2001 Capitol Avenue, Room 214 Cheyenne, WY 82002 Telephone: (307) 777-5492 FAX: (307) 777-3696 sross1@missc.state.wy.us http://www-cio.state.wy.us</p>

<p>U.S. TERRITORIES</p> <p>GUAM</p> <p>Mr. Joseph Rivera, Acting Director Territory of Guam Office of the Governor Bureau of Budget & Management Research P.O. Box 2950 HAGÁTÑA, GU 96932 Telephone: (671) 475-9411 Telephone: (671) 475-9412 Telephone: (671) 475-9429 FAX: (671) 475-2825 jer@ns.gov.gu bbmr@ns.gov.gu</p>	<p>U.S. TERRITORIES</p> <p>PUERTO RICO</p> <p>Mr. José Caballero-Mercado, Chairman Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Puerto Rico Planning Board Federal Proposals Review Office Minillas Government Center P.O. Box 41119 San Juan, PR 00940-1119 Telephone: (787) 727-4444 (PRPB) Telephone: (787) 723-6190 (FPRO) FAX: (787) 724-3270 j@jp.prstar.net</p>
<p>NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS</p> <p>Mrs. Virginia Villagomez, Acting Special Assistant Government of the Commonwealth Of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor Office of Management and Budget Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2265 Telephone: (670) 664-2266 Telephone: (670) 664-2267 FAX: (670) 664-2272 omb.villagomez@saipan.com</p>	<p>THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS</p> <p>Mr. Ira Mills, Director Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States U.S.V.I. Office of Management & Budget No. 41 Norre Gade Emancipation Garden Station, 2nd Floor Charlotte Amalie, U.S.V.I. 00802 http://www.gov.vi/omb/ <i>Please direct all questions and correspondence about intergovernmental review to Daisy Millin.</i> Telephone: (340) 774-0750 FAX: (340) 776-0069 Irmills@usvi.org Dmmillin@usvi.org</p>

Note: This list is based on the most current information provided by the States. Changes to this list may be provided by a State's officially designated representative by sending a message to grants@omb.eop.gov, or sending correspondence to the following postal address:

Attn: Grants Management
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Suite 6025
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

This list is updated every six months and is also published biannually in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA).

Application for Federal Education Assistance



Note: If available, please provide application package on diskette and specify the file format

U.S. Department of Education

Form Approved
OMB No. 1875-0106
Exp. 06/30/2001

Applicant Information

1. Name and Address

Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

Organizational Unit

City

2. Applicant's D-U-N-S Number: | | | | | | | | | |

State

County

ZIP Code + 4

6. Is the applicant delinquent on any Federal debt? ____ Yes ____ No

(If "Yes," attach an explanation.)

3. Applicant's T-I-N | | | | - | | | | | | | |

Title: _____

4. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance #: 84. | | | | | | | | | | →

5. Project Director: _____

7. Type of Applicant (Enter appropriate letter in the box.) | | | | |

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code + 4 _____
Tel. #: () _____ - _____ Fax #: () _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

A - State H - Independent School District
B - County I - Public College or University
C - Municipal J - Private, Non-Profit College or University
D - Township K - Indian Tribe
E - Interstate L - Individual
F - Intermunicipal M - Private, Profit-Making Organization
G - Special District N - Other (Specify): _____

8. N

Application Information

9. Type of Submission:

-PreApplication

-Application

____ Construction

____ Construction

____ Non-Construction

____ Non-Construction

10. Is application subject to review by Executive Order 12372 process?

____ Yes (Date made available to the Executive Order 12372 process for review): ____/____/____

____ No (If "No," check appropriate box below.)

____ Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

____ Program has not been selected by State for review.

11. Proposed Project Dates: ____/____/____

Start Date:

End Date:

12. Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project period? ____ Yes ____ No

a. If "Yes," Exemption(s) #: _____

b. Assurance of Compliance #: _____

OR

c. IRB approval date: ____ Full IRB or
____ Expedited Review

13. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Estimated Funding

14a. Federal \$ _____ .00

b. Applicant \$ _____ .00

c. State \$ _____ .00

d. Local \$ _____ .00

e. Other \$ _____ .00

f. Program Income \$ _____ .00

g. TOTAL \$ _____ .00

Authorized Representative Information

15. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this preapplication/application are true

and correct. The document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant

and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is awarded.

a. Typed Name of Authorized Representative

b. Title: _____

c. Tel. #: () _____ - _____ Fax #: () _____ - _____

d. E-Mail Address: _____

e. Signature of Authorized Representative

_____ Date: ____/____/____

Instructions for ED 424

1. Legal Name and Address. Enter the legal name of applicant and the name of the primary organizational unit which will undertake the assistance activity.
2. D-U-N-S Number. Enter the applicant's D-U-N-S Number. If your organization does not have a D-U-N-S Number, you can obtain the number by calling 1-800-333-0505 or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL: <http://www.dnb.com/dbis/aboutdb/intlduns.htm>.
3. Tax Identification Number. Enter the tax identification number as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
4. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number. Enter the CFDA number and title of the program under which assistance is requested.
5. Project Director. Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application.
6. Federal Debt Delinquency. Check "Yes" if the applicant's organization is delinquent on any Federal debt. (This question refers to the applicant's organization and not to the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes.) Otherwise, check "No."
7. Type of Applicant. Enter the appropriate letter in the box provided.
8. Novice Applicant. Check "Yes" only if assistance is being requested under a program that gives special consideration to novice applicants and you meet the program requirements for novice applicants. By checking "Yes" the applicant certifies that it meets the novice applicant requirements specified by ED. Otherwise, check "No."
9. Type of Submission. Self-explanatory.
10. Executive Order 12372. Check "Yes" if the application is subject to review by Executive Order 12372. Also, please enter the month, date, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2000). Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process. Otherwise, check "No."
11. Proposed Project Dates. Please enter the month, date, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2000).
12. Human Subjects. Check "Yes" or "No". If research activities involving human subjects are not planned at any time during the proposed project period, check "No." The remaining parts of item 11 are then not applicable.

If research activities involving human subjects, whether or not exempt from Federal regulations for the protection of human subjects, are planned at any time during the proposed

project period, either at the applicant organization or at any other performance site or collaborating institution, check "Yes." If all the research activities are designated to be exempt under the regulations, enter, in item 11a, the exemption number(s) corresponding to one or more of the six exemption categories listed in "Protection of Human Subjects in Research" attached to this form. Provide sufficient information in the application to allow a determination that the designated exemptions in item 11a, are appropriate. Provide this narrative information in an "Item 11/Protection of Human Subjects Attachment" and insert this attachment immediately following the ED 424 face page. Skip the remaining parts of item 11.

If some or all of the planned research activities involving human subjects are covered (nonexempt), skip item 11a and continue with the remaining parts of item 11, as noted below. In addition, follow the instructions in "Protection of Human Subjects in Research" attached to this form to prepare the six-point narrative about the nonexempt activities. Provide this six-point narrative in an "Item 11/Protection of Human Subjects Attachment" and insert this attachment immediately following the ED 424 face page.

If the applicant organization has an approved Multiple Project Assurance of Compliance on file with the Grants Policy and Oversight Staff (GPOS), U.S. Department of Education, or with the Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR), National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that covers the specific activity, enter the Assurance number in item 11b and the date of approval by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the proposed activities in item 11c. This date must be no earlier than one year before the receipt date for which the application is submitted and must include the four (4) digit year (e.g., 2000). Check the type of IRB review in the appropriate box. An IRB may use the expedited review procedure if it complies with the requirements of 34 CFR 97.110. If the IRB review is delayed beyond the submission of the application, enter "Pending" in item 11c. If your application is recommended/selected for funding, a follow-up certification of IRB approval from an official signing for the applicant organization must be sent to and received by the designated ED official within 30 days after a specific formal request from the designated ED official. If the applicant organization does not have on file with GPOS or OPRR an approved Assurance of Compliance that covers the proposed research activity, enter "None" in item 11b and skip 11c. In this case, the applicant organization, by the signature on the application, is declaring that it will comply with 34 CFR 97 within 30 days after a specific formal request from the designated ED official for the Assurance(s) and IRB certifications.

13. Project Title. Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If more than one program is involved, you should append an explanation on a separate sheet. If appropriate (e.g., construction or real property projects), attach a map showing project location. For preapplications, use a

separate sheet to provide a summary description of this project.

14. Estimated Funding. Amount requested or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses. If both basic and supplemental amounts are included, show breakdown on an attached sheet. For multiple program funding, use totals and show breakdown using same categories as item 13.
15. Certification. To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as official representative must be on file in the applicant's office.

Be sure to enter the telephone and fax number and e-mail address of the authorized representative. Also, in item 14e, please enter the month, date, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2000) in the date signed field.

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1875-0106. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between 15 and 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to: Joyce I. Mays, Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, 7th and D Streets, S.W. ROB-3, Room 3633, Washington, D.C. 20202-4725

Protection of Human Subjects in Research (Attachment to ED 424)

I. Instructions to Applicants about the Narrative Information that Must be Provided if Research Activities Involving Human Subjects are Planned.

If you marked item 11 on the application “Yes” and designated exemptions in 11a, **(all research activities are exempt)**, provide sufficient information in the application to allow a determination that the designated exemptions are appropriate. Research involving human subjects that is exempt from the regulations is discussed under **II.B. “Exemptions,”** below. The Narrative must be succinct. **Provide this information in an “Item 11/Protection of Human Subjects Attachment” and insert this attachment immediately following the ED 424 face page.**

If you marked “Yes” to item 11 on the face page, and designated no exemptions from the regulations **(some or all of the research activities are nonexempt)**, address the following six points for each nonexempt activity. In addition, if research involving human subjects will take place at collaborating site(s) or other performance site(s), provide this information before discussing the six points. Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct. Provide the six-point narrative and discussion of other performance sites in an **“Item 11/Protection of Human Subjects Attachment” and insert this attachment immediately following the ED 424 face page.**

(1) Provide a detailed description of the proposed involvement of human subjects. Describe the characteristics of the subject population, including their anticipated number, age range, and health status. Identify the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of any subpopulation. Explain the rationale for the involvement of special classes of subjects, such as children, children with disabilities, adults with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities, pregnant women, prisoners, institutionalized individuals, or others who are likely to be vulnerable.

(2) Identify the sources of research material obtained from individually identifiable living human subjects in the form of specimens, records, or data. Indicate whether the material or data will be obtained specifically for research purposes or whether use will be made of existing specimens, records, or data.

(3) Describe plans for the recruitment of subjects and the consent procedures to be followed. Include the circumstances under which consent will be sought and obtained, who will seek it, the nature of the information to be provided to prospective subjects, and the method of documenting consent. State if the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has authorized a modification or waiver of the elements of consent or the requirement for documentation of consent.

(4) Describe potential risks (physical, psychological, social, legal, or other) and assess their likelihood and seriousness.

Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that might be advantageous to the subjects.

(5) Describe the procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to confidentiality, and assess their likely effectiveness. Where appropriate, discuss provisions for ensuring necessary medical or professional intervention in the event of adverse effects to the subjects. Also, where appropriate, describe the provisions for monitoring the data collected to ensure the safety of the subjects.

(6) Discuss why the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to subjects and in relation to the importance of the knowledge that may reasonably be expected to result.

II. Information on Research Activities Involving Human Subjects

A. Definitions.

A research activity involves human subjects if the activity is research, as defined in the Department’s regulations, and the research activity will involve use of human subjects, as defined in the regulations.

—Is it a research activity?

The ED Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97, define research as “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.” *If an activity follows a deliberate plan whose purpose is to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge, such as an exploratory study or the collection of data to test a hypothesis, it is research.* Activities which meet this definition constitute research whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program which is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities.

—Is it a human subject?

The regulations define human subject as “a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information.” *(1) If an activity involves obtaining information about a living person by manipulating that person or that person’s environment, as might occur when a new instructional technique is tested, or by communicating or interacting with the individual, as occurs with surveys and interviews, the definition of human subject is met. (2) If an activity involves obtaining private information about a living person in such a way that the information can be linked to that individual (the identity of the subject is or may be readily determined by the investigator or associated with the information), the definition of human subject*

is met. [Private information includes information about behavior that occurs in a context in which an individual can reasonably expect that no observation or recording is taking place, and information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will not be made public (for example, a school health record).]

B. Exemptions.

Research activities in which the only involvement of human subjects will be in one or more of the following six categories of **exemptions** are not covered by the regulations:

(1) Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.

(2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless: (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (b) any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation. ***If the subjects are children, this exemption applies only to research involving educational tests or observations of public behavior when the investigator(s) do not participate in the activities being observed.*** [Children are defined as persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law or jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.]

(3) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior that is not exempt under section (2) above, if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office; or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

(4) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

(5) Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine: (a) public benefit or service programs; (b) procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs; (c) possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or

(d) possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.

(6) Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies, (a) if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or (b) if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Copies of the Department of Education's Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, 34 CFR Part 97 and other pertinent materials on the protection of human subjects in research are available from the Grants Policy and Oversight Staff (GPOS) Office of the Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C., telephone: (202) 708-8263, and on the U.S. Department of Education's Protection of Human Subjects in Research Web Site at <http://ocfo.ed.gov/humansub.htm>.

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS
(ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS)
AND
APPLICATION FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-382).

To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. **ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs.

This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single

narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to vary from 1 to 3 hours per response, with an average of 1.5 hours, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

The application is divided into four parts. These parts are organized in the same manner that the submitted application should be organized. These parts are as follows:

Part I: Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424) and Instructions.

Part II: Budget Information -- Non-Construction Programs (ED Form 524) and Instructions.

Part III: Application Narrative.

Part IV: Assurances and Certifications --

Assurances -- Non-Construction Programs (Standard Form 424B).

Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (ED Form 80-0013).

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion -- Lower Tier Covered Transactions (ED Form 80-0014) and Instructions.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.

Important Notice to Prospective Participants in USDE Contract and Grant Programs.

An applicant may submit information on a photostatic copy of the application and budget forms, the assurances, and the certifications. However, the application form, the assurances, and the certifications must each have an original signature. No grant may be awarded unless a completed application form has been received.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****BUDGET INFORMATION****NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**

OMB Control Number: 1890-0004

Expiration Date: 02/28/2003

Name of Institution/Organization

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

**SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS**

Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)						

Name of Institution/Organization	Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.
----------------------------------	--

<p align="center">SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY NON-FEDERAL FUNDS</p>
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Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)						

<p align="center">SECTION C - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION (see instructions)</p>
--

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from 13 to 22 hours per response, with an average of 17.5 hours per response, including the time reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, Information Management and Compliance Division, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1875-0102, Washington DC 20503.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ED FORM 524

General Instructions

This form is used to apply to individual U.S. Department of Education discretionary grant programs. Unless directed otherwise, provide the same budget information for each year of the multi-year funding request. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

Section A - Budget Summary U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a breakdown by the applicable budget categories shown in lines 1-11.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which funding is requested, show the total amount requested for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If funding is requested for only one project year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total budget request for each project year for which funding is requested.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount requested for all project years. If funding is requested for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section B - Budget Summary Non-Federal Funds

If you are required to provide or volunteer to provide matching funds or other non-Federal resources to the project, these should be shown for each applicable budget category on lines 1-11 of Section B.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which matching funds or other contributions are provided, show the total contribution for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total matching or other contribution for each project year.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount to be contributed for all years of the multi-year project. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section C - Other Budget Information

Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown, by project year, for each budget category listed in Sections A and B.
2. If applicable to this program, enter the type of indirect rate (provisional, predetermined, final or fixed) that will be in effect during the funding period. In addition, enter the estimated amount of the base to which the rate is applied, and the total indirect expense.
3. If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
4. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.

PART III - APPLICATION NARRATIVE

This narrative section of the application requires applicants to address the selection criteria that will be used by reviewers in evaluating individual applications. Please refer to the “Selection Criteria and Format” sections in this package for the competition to which you wish to submit an application.

Also, all of the competitions covered by this package have page limitations for the application narrative. Please refer to the “Page Limits” information for the competition to which you wish to submit an application.

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

Note: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§ 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §§874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead- based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		DATE SUBMITTED

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS; AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 34 CFR Part 82, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," and 34 CFR Part 85, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Education determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined at 34 CFR Part 82, Sections 82.105 and 82.110, the applicant certifies that:

(a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions;

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

2. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.105 and 85.110--

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgement rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transaction (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

3. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIDUALS)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.605 and 85.610 -

A. The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about-

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will-

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

(e) Notifying the agency, in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to: Director, Grants and Contracts Service, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W. (Room 3600, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3), Washington, DC 20202-4130. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;

(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted-

(1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

B. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

Check [] if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

**DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE
(GRANTEES WHO ARE INDIVIDUALS)**

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.605 and 85.610-

A. As a condition of the grant, I certify that I will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant; and

B. If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, I will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to: Director, Grants and Contracts Service, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W. (Room 3600, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3), Washington, DC 20202-4130. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above certifications.

NAME OF APPLICANT	PR/AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
SIGNATURE	DATE

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion -- Lower Tier Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the Department of Education regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, for all lower tier transactions meeting the threshold and tier requirements stated at Section 85.110.

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification

- (1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- (2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

NAME OF APPLICANT	PR/AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
SIGNATURE	DATE

ED 80-0014, 9/90 (Replaces GCS-009 (REV.12/88), which is obsolete)

DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

Approved by OMB
0348-0046

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure.)

1. Type of Federal Action: a. contract b. grant c. cooperative agreement d. loan e. loan guarantee <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	2. Status of Federal Action: a. bid/offer/application b. initial award c. post-award <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	3. Report Type: a. initial filing b. material change <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin-top: 10px;"></div> For Material Change Only: year _____
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> Prime Subawardee </div> Tier _____, <i>if known:</i> Congressional District, <i>if known:</i>		5. If Reporting Entity in No.4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, <i>if known:</i>
6. Federal Department/Agency:		7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, <i>if applicable:</i>
8. Federal Action Number, if known:		9. Award Amount, if known: \$
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Entity Registrant <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i>		b. Individuals Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a) <i>(last name, first name, MI):</i>
11. Amount of Payment (check all that apply): \$ _____ actual planned		13. Type of Payment (Check all that apply): a. retainer b. one-time fee c. commission d. contingent fee e. deferred f. other; specify: _____ _____
12. Form of Payment (check all that apply): a. cash b. in-kind; specify: nature _____ <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> _____ value _____ _____ </div>		
14. Brief Description of Services Performed or to be Performed and Date(s) of Service, including officer(s), employee(s), or Member(s) contacted, for Payment Indicated in Item 11: <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(attach Continuation Sheet(s) SF-LLL-A, if necessary)</div>		
15. Continuation Sheet(s) SF-LLL attached: Yes No		
16. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.		Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Title: _____ Telephone No.: _____ Date: _____
Federal Use Only		Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Use the SF-LLL-A Continuation Sheet for additional information if the space on the form is inadequate. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, state and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee" then enter the full name, address, city, state and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the Federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitation for Bid (IFB) number, grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Include prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, state, and zip code of the lobbying entity registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.
(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. Enter the amount of compensation paid or reasonably expected to be paid by the reporting entity (item 4) to the lobbying entity (item 10). Indicate whether the payment has been made (actual) or will be made (planned). Check all boxes that apply. If this a material change report, enter the cumulative amount of payment made or planned to be made.
12. Check the appropriate box(es). Check all boxes that apply. If payment is made through an in-kind contribution, specify the nature and value of in-kind payment.
13. Check the appropriate box(es). Check all boxes that apply. If other specify nature.
14. Provide a specific and detailed description of the services that the lobbyist has performed, or will be expected to perform, and the date(s) of any services rendered. Include all preparatory and related activity, not just time spent in actual contact with Federal officials. Identify the Federal official(s) contacted or the officer(s), employee(s), or Member(s) of Congress that were contacted.
15. Check whether or not a SF-LLL-A Continuation Sheet(s) is attached.
16. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, D.C. 20503.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
TO PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS
IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CONTRACT AND GRANT PROGRAMS

GRANTS

Applicants for grants from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) have to compete for limited funds. Deadlines assure all applicants that they will be treated fairly and equally, without last minute haste. For these reasons, ED must set strict deadlines for grant applications. Prospective applicants can avoid disappointment if they understand that -

Failure to meet a deadline will mean that an application will be
rejected without any consideration whatever.

The rules, including the deadline, for applying for each grant are published, individually, in the Federal Register. A one-year subscription to the Register may be obtained by sending \$340.00 to: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9371. (Send check or money order only, on cash or stamps.)

The instructions in the federal Register must be followed exactly. Do not accept any other advice you may receive. No ED employee is authorized to extend any deadline published in the Register.

Questions regarding submission of applications may be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Competitive procurement actions undertaken by the ED are governed by the Federal Procurement Regulation and implementing ED Procurement Regulation.

Generally, prospective competitive procurement actions are synopsized in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD). Prospective offerors are therein advised of the nature of the procurement and where to apply for copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP).

Offerors are advised to be guided solely by the contents of the CBD synopsis and the instructions contained in the RFP. Questions regarding the submission of offers should be addressed to the Contracts Specialist identified on the face page of the RFP.

Offers are judged in competition with other, and failure to conform with any substantive requirements of the RFP will result in rejection of the offer without any consideration whatever.

Do not accept any advice you receive that is contrary to instructions contained in either the CBD synopsis or RFP. No ED employee is authorized to consider a proposal which is non-responsive to the RFP.

A subscription to the CBS is available for \$208.00 per year via second class mailing or \$261.00 per year via first class mailing. Information included in the Federal Acquisition Regulations is contained in Title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1 (\$ 49.00). The foregoing publication may be obtained by sending your check or money order only, no cash or stamps, to:

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20402-9371

In an effort to be certain this important information is widely disseminated, this notice is being included in all ED Mail to the public. You may, therefore, receive more than one notice. If you do, we apologize for any annoyance it may cause you.

ED Form 5548 8/92 REPLACES ED FORM 5548, 6/86 WHICH IS OBSOLETE
Standard Form - LLL-A

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS: The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

What is GPRA

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 is a straightforward statute that requires all Federal agencies to manage their activities with attention to the consequences of those activities. Each agency is to clearly state what intends to accomplish, identify the resources required, and periodically report their progress to the Congress. In doing so, it is expected that GPRA will contribute to improvements in accountability for the expenditures of public funds, improve Congressional decision-making through more objective information on the effectiveness of Federal programs, and promote a new government focus on results, service delivery, and customer satisfaction.

How has the United States Department of Education Responded to the GPRA Requirements?

As required by GPRA, the United States Department of Education (the Department) has prepared a strategic plan for 1998-2002. This plan reflects the Department's priorities and integrates them with its mission and program authorities and describes how the Department will work to improve education for all children and adults in the United States. The Department's goals, as listed in the plan, are:

- Goal 1:* Help all students reach challenging academic standards so that they are prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.
- Goal 2:* Build a solid foundation for learning for all children.
- Goal 3:* Ensure access to postsecondary education and lifelong learning.
- Goal 4:* Make the United States Department of Education a high performance organization by focusing on results, service quality, and customer satisfaction.

WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE IDEA: RESEARCH AND INNOVATION; PERSONNEL PREPARATION; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND DISSEMINATION; PARENT INFORMATION; TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA SERVICES; AND STUDIES AND EVALUATION PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT?

THE PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ARE AUTHORIZED UNDER PART D OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, TITLED "NATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES". THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIFIC GOAL FOR THE IDEA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS IS "to link best practices to states, school systems, and families to improve results for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities." The objectives and performance indicators for these programs are as follows:

Objective 1. Programs respond to critical needs of children with disabilities and their families.

Indicator 1.1 Responsive to needs. The percentage of idea program activities that are determined by expert panels to respond to critical needs of children with disabilities and their families will increase. (a) research and innovation, (b) technology, (c) personnel preparation, (d) technical assistance, and (e) state improvement.

Objective. 2. Projects use high quality methods and materials.

Indicator 2.1 Highest standards for methods and materials. Expert panels determine that idea-funded projects use exceedingly high-quality methods and materials. (a) research and innovation (b) technology (c) personnel preparation (d) technical assistance (e) state improvement.

Objective 3. Projects communicate appropriately and products are used to improve results for children with disabilities and their families.

Indicator 3.1 Communication. The percentage of idea-funded projects that communicate appropriately with target audiences will increase. (a) research and innovation (b) technology (c) personnel preparation (d) technical assistance

Indicator 3.2 Use results. Expert panels determine that practitioners, including policy-makers, administrators, teachers, parents, or others as appropriate, use products and practices developed through idea programs to improve results for children with disabilities. (a) research and innovation (b) technology (c) personnel preparation (d) technical assistance (e) state improvement

Objective 4. Personnel are prepared to serve children with disabilities.

Indicator 4.1 Persons trained serve children. The percentage of persons who obtain their degrees with idea support and serve children with disabilities as teachers, early intervention personnel, related services personnel, or leadership personnel within 3 years of receiving their degrees will increase.

Indicator 4.2 Minority institutions. The percentage of idea grants for personnel preparation awarded to historically black colleges and universities and other minority institutions, including tribal colleges, will increase.

Indicator 4.3 Minority and disabled personnel. The percentage of personnel who are minority and the percentage who are disabled who receive financial assistance for training under idea will increase.

Objective 5. Families receive information about services for children with disabilities.

Indicator 5.1 Informed families. The percentage of families that report that the training and technical assistance received from the parent information and training centers made a positive difference in their child's supports and services will increase.

Indicator 5.2 Families served. The percentage of families of children with disabilities, particularly minority families that receive services from parent training and information programs will increase.

EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES

(as of January 13, 1999)

EMPOWERMENT ZONES

California: Los Angeles, Oakland, Santa Ana, Riverside County*
Connecticut: New Haven+
Florida: Miami+
Georgia: Atlanta, Cordele*+
Illinois: Chicago, East St. Louis+, Ullin*
Indiana: Gary, East Chicago
Kentucky: Kentucky Highlands*
(Clinton, Jackson, and Wayne Counties)
Maryland: Baltimore
Massachusetts: Boston+
Michigan: Detroit
Minnesota: Minneapolis+
Mississippi: Mid-Delta*
(Bolivar, Holmes, Humphreys, LeFlore, Sunflower, Washington Counties)
Missouri/Kansas: Kansas City, Kansas City
Missouri: St. Louis+
New Jersey: Cumberland County
New York: Harlem, Bronx
North Dakota: Lake Agassiz*
Ohio: Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus+
Ohio/West Virginia: Ironton/Huntington+
Pennsylvania/New Jersey: Philadelphia/Camden
South Carolina: Columbia/Sumter
South Dakota: Oglala Sioux Reservation in Pine Ridge*
Tennessee: Knoxville
Texas: Houston, El Paso+, Rio Grande Valley*
(Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties)
Virginia: Norfolk+/Portsmouth

ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES

Alabama: Birmingham
Alabama: Chambers County*
Greene County*, Sumter County*
Alaska: Juneau*
Arizona: Arizona Border* (Cochise, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties), Phoenix, Window Rock*
Arkansas: East Central* (Cross, Lee, Monroe, and St. Francis Counties), Mississippi County*, Pulaski County
California: Imperial County*, Los Angeles, Huntington Park, San Diego, San Francisco, Bayview, Hunter's Point, Watsonville*, Orange Cove*
Colorado: Denver
Connecticut: Bridgeport, New Haven
Delaware: Wilmington
District of Columbia: Washington
Florida: Jackson County*, Miami, Dade County, Tampa, Immokalee*
Georgia: Albany, Central Savannah River* (Burke, Hancock, Jefferson, McDuffie, Taliaferro, and Warren Counties), Crisp County*, Dooley County*
Hawaii: Kaunakakai*
Illinois: East St. Louis, Springfield

Indiana: Indianapolis, Austin*
Iowa: Des Moines
Kansas: Leoti*
Kentucky: Louisville, Bowling Green*
Louisiana: Macon Ridge* (Catahoula, Concordia, Franklin, Morehouse, and Tensas Parishes), New Orleans, Northeast Louisiana Delta* (Madison Parish), Ouachita Parish
Maine: Lewiston*
Massachusetts: Lowell, Springfield
Michigan: Five Cap*, Flint, Muskegon, Harrison*
Minnesota: Minneapolis, St. Paul
Mississippi: Jackson, North Delta Area*
(Palo Alto, Quitman, and Tallahatchie Counties)
Missouri: East Prairie*, St. Louis
Montana: Poplar*
Nebraska: Omaha
Nevada: Clarke County, Las Vegas
New Hampshire: Manchester
New Jersey: Newark
New Mexico: Albuquerque, La Jicarita* (Mora, Rio Arriba, Taos Counties), Deming*
New York: Albany, Schenectady, Troy
New York: Buffalo, Rochester
New York: Newburgh, Kingston
North Carolina: Charlotte
North Carolina: Edgecombe, Halifax, Robeson, Wilson Counties*
Ohio: Akron, Columbus, Greater Portsmouth* (Scioto County)
Oklahoma: Choctaw, McCurtain Counties*, Oklahoma City, Ada*
Oregon: Josephine County*, Portland
Pennsylvania: Harrisburg, Lock Haven*, Pittsburgh, Uniontown*
Rhode Island: Providence
South Carolina: Charleston, Williamsburg, Florence County*, Hallandale*
South Dakota: Beadle, Spink Counties*
Tennessee: Fayette, Haywood Counties*, Memphis, Nashville, Rutledge*
Tennessee/Kentucky: Scott, McCreary Counties*
Texas: Dallas, El Paso, San Antonio, Waco, Uvalde*
Utah: Ogden
Vermont: Burlington
Virginia: Accomack (Northampton County)*, Norfolk
Washington: Lower Yakima County*, Seattle, Tacoma, Collier*
West Virginia: Charleston*, Huntington, McDowell County*, West Central Appalachia* (Braxton, Clay, Fayette, Nicholas, and Roane)
Wisconsin: Milwaukee, Keshena*

* Denotes rural designee +Also an Enterprise Community, Round One

DUNS Number Instructions

D-U-N-S No.: Please provide the applicant's D-U-N-S Number. You can obtain your D-U-N-S Number at no charge by calling 1-800-333-0505 or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL:

<http://www.dnb.com/dbis/aboutdb/intlduns.htm>

The D-U-N-S Number is a unique nine-digit number that does not convey any information about the recipient. A built in check digit helps assure the accuracy of the D-U-N-S Number. The ninth digit of each number is the check digit, which is mathematically related to the other digits. It lets computer systems determine if a D-U-N-S Number has been entered correctly.

Dun & Bradstreet, a global information services provider, has assigned D-U-N-S numbers to over 43 million companies worldwide.

GRANT APPLICATION RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

If you fail to receive the notification of application within fifteen (15) days from the closing date, call:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
(202) 708-9493

GRANT AND CONTRACT FUNDING INFORMATION

The Department of Education provides information about grant and contract opportunities electronically in several ways:

ED Internet Home Page

<http://www.ed.gov/>

(WWW address)